NARUTO

SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story & Art by

Masashi Kishimoto

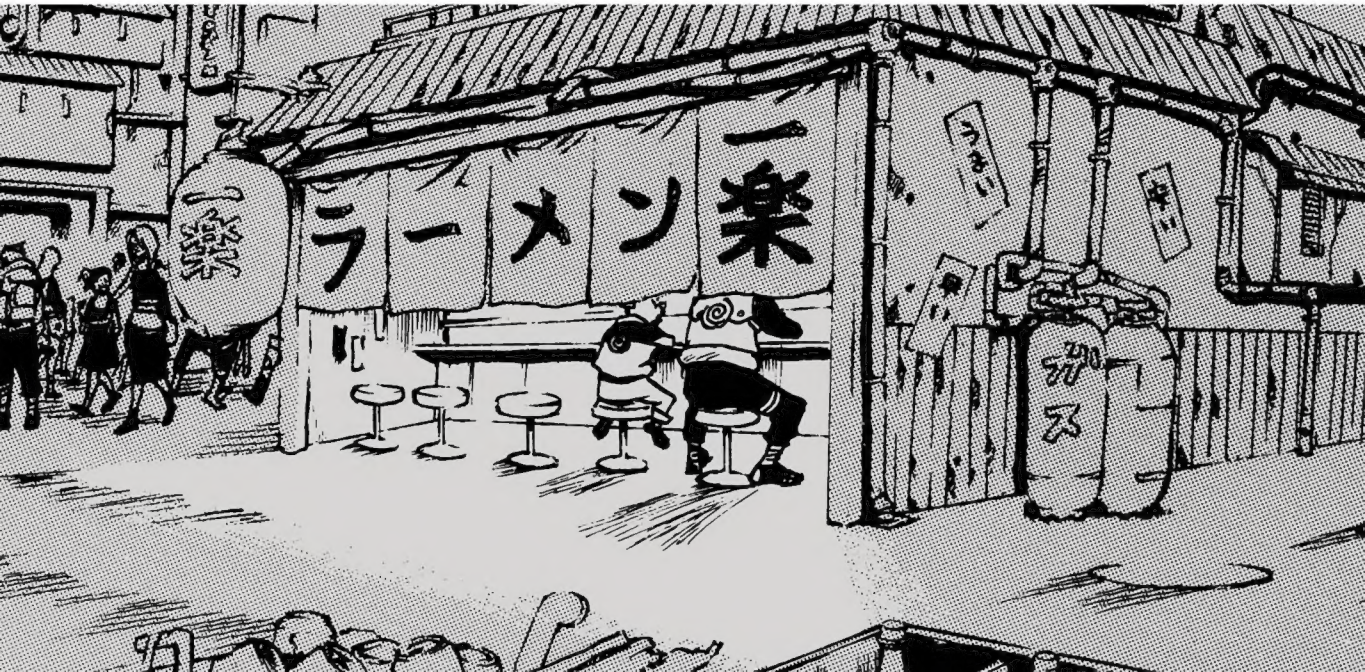
volume 4

岸本斉史

Thank you for your constant fan letters.
When I'm tired...
When I'm bored...
When I'm groaning in pain...
When I'm sleepy...
They always help to flip my heart's switch.
I read them all.
Thanks truly!!

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2000

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** ("Mechanism"). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.



JUMP COMICS

NARUTO
-ナルト-

巻ノ四

英雄の橋!!

岸本斉史

COLORED MANGA.COM

主な登場人物

うずまきナルト

目立ちたがり屋、意外性No.1のドタバタ忍者(^▽^)

うちはサスケ

うちは一族の末裔。クールな奴。一族の復興が夢。

春野サクラ

おしゃまな女忍者。頭の中はサスケの事で一杯♡

COLORED MANGA.COM

THE STORY SO FAR...

Twelve years ago, a destructive nine-tailed fox spirit attacked the ninja village of Konohagakure. The Hokage, or village champion, defeated the fox by sealing its soul into the body of a baby boy. Now that boy, Uzumaki Naruto, has grown up to become a ninja-in-training, learning the art of ninjutsu with his classmates Sakura and Sasuke. Tired of easy exercises, Naruto and his classmates make the mistake of asking their teacher, Kakashi, for a really hard assignment... and find themselves in the Land of Waves, protecting a bridge-builder named Tazuna. But the job turns truly dangerous when the notorious assassin Zabuza shows up. While Kakashi holds off Zabuza and Sakura protects Tazuna, Naruto and Sasuke face Zabuza's assistant Haku. In the battle, Sasuke sacrifices himself to save Naruto from Haku's deadly throwing needles. Now, watching his classmate fall, Naruto feels something terrible stir within him...

前巻(ぜんかん)までのあらすじ

COLORED MANGA.COM

NARUTO
ーナルトー

巻ノ四

英雄の橋!!

もくじ

CONTENTS

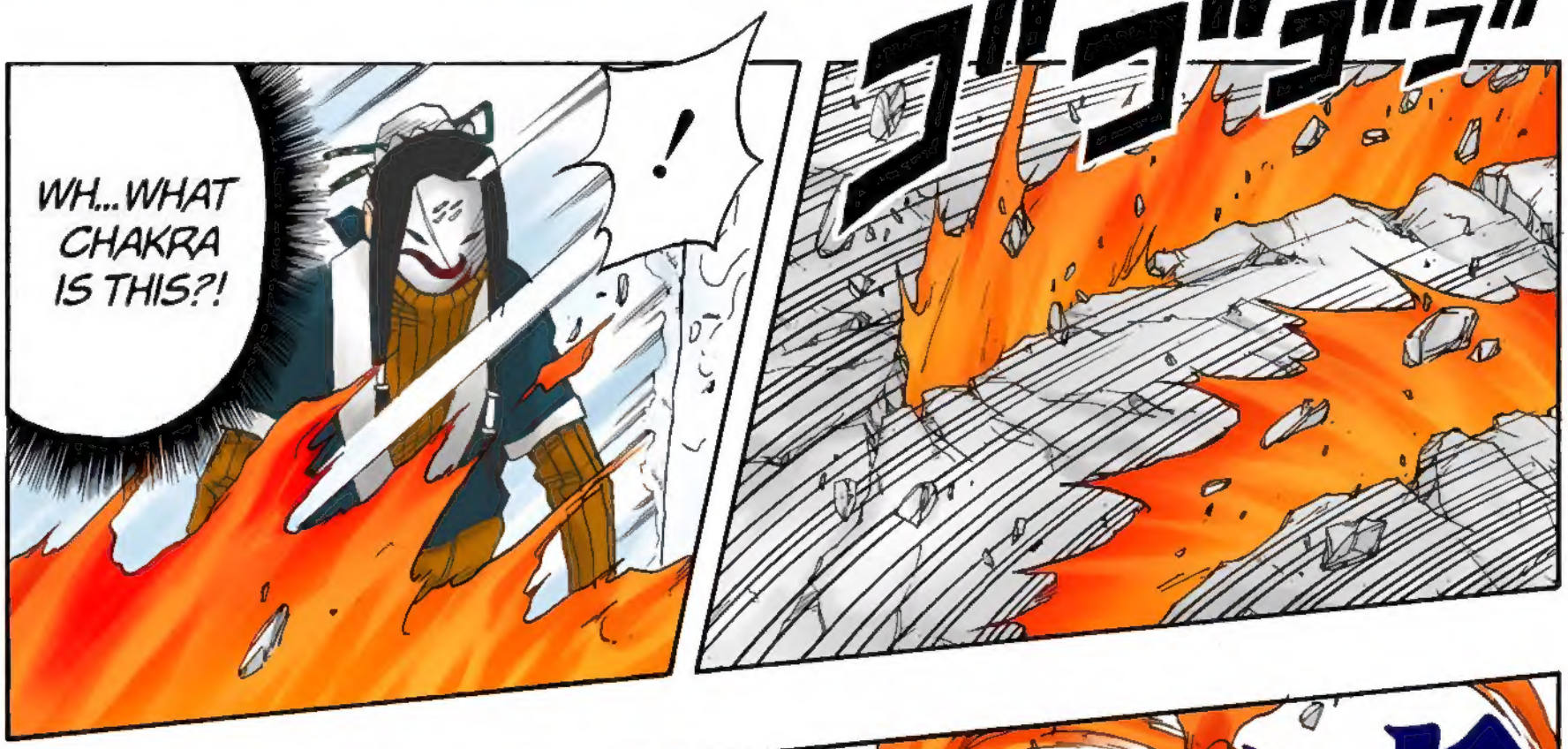
NUMBER 28	NINE TAILS...!!	7
NUMBER 29	SOMEONE PRECIOUS TO YOU	27
NUMBER 30	YOUR FUTURE IS...!!	47
NUMBER 31	TO EACH HIS OWN STRUGGLE...	65
NUMBER 32	THE TOOLS CALLED SHINOBI	83
NUMBER 33	THE BRIDGE OF THE HERO!!	103
NUMBER 34	INTRUDERS?	122
NUMBER 35	IRUKA VS. KAKASHI	141
NUMBER 36	SAKURA'S DEPRESSION	161
PREVIEWS		180

COLORED MANGA.COM

九尾!!

NINE TAILS...!!

ナンバー 28 : きゅうび 九尾…!!



COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー28：九尾…!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

...A-AND AN APPALLING CHAKRA IT IS!

...IMPOSSIBLE...!! HIS CHAKRA IS PHYSICALLY MANIFESTING ITSELF!

ウウ

ウウ

シュウウウ

ゴゴゴゴゴ

WHO– WHAT ON EARTH IS HE?!!

...HIS HAND... THE WOUNDS ARE... HEALING THEMSELVES!

!

!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

!

!!

!!

違う！

NO... THIS POWER - THIS ENERGY... IS... FOUL... IT'S EVIL. AND... FAMILIAR... BUT IT CAN'T BE!

IS THIS... ZABUZA'S DOING?!

...!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

UNBELIEVABLE . IT CAN'T BE! AFTER ALL THIS TIME-- てにた …!

NARUTO!!

KAKASHI...?! カシ…!?

NO... IT SEEMS BIGGER THAN KAKASHI, SOMEHOW. BUT WHO--?! じゃ

THIS CHAKRA I'M FEELING. SOMETHING ABOUT IT... FILLS ME WITH DREAD!

- HAS THE BINDING SPELL BEGUN TO UNRAVEL? IS THE SEAL BROKEN?

BUT THE SEAL HAS SLIPPED A LITTLE, OR CRACKED. AND THE POWER OF THE NINE-TAILED DEMON FOX IS BLEEDING THROUGH.

I SENSE THAT WE'RE SAFE - FOR NOW. IT HASN'T BROKEN THROUGH YET... NOT COMPLETELY.

!

...

...I SENSE...

LORED
ANGA.COM

SHLUK

PLIT

IF I ACT QUICKLY, THERE'S STILL A CHANCE --!

...I'M A BUSY MAN. YOU'RE A BUSY MAN. WE'VE BOTH GOT A LOT ON OUR PLATES...

LISTEN TO ME... ZABUZA...

COLORED MANGA.COM

...BUT WHAT DO YOU SAY WE STOP SCREWING AROUND...

... AND IT GOES AGAINST THE GRAIN TO EVEN SUGGEST THIS...

...AND WRAP THIS UP RIGHT NOW? ONE BIG MOVE, WINNER TAKE ALL?

AN INTRIGUING NOTION...

WHAT'S LEFT, KAKASHI?

SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT!

COLORED MANGA.COM

HE'S ATTACKING!!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

HE'S SO BLOODTHIRSTY! HE'S COMPLETELY CHANGED FROM THE BOY OF JUST MINUTES AGO!

シュッ!!

ドカ

ドカ

HE... HE DEFLECTED THEM... WITHOUT EVEN TOUCHING THEM?!

!

メラロ

COLORED
MANGA.COM

ガ
ガ
ガ

ナルト

ガッ!!

!!

HE COULDN'T HAVE--!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

AAAUUURGH!!

ピシ

COLORED MANGA.COM

I CAN'T WITHSTAND (HIS) CHAKRA ANY MORE!!
ない!!

THIS IS BAD...!!
だ…!!

!

UHN...

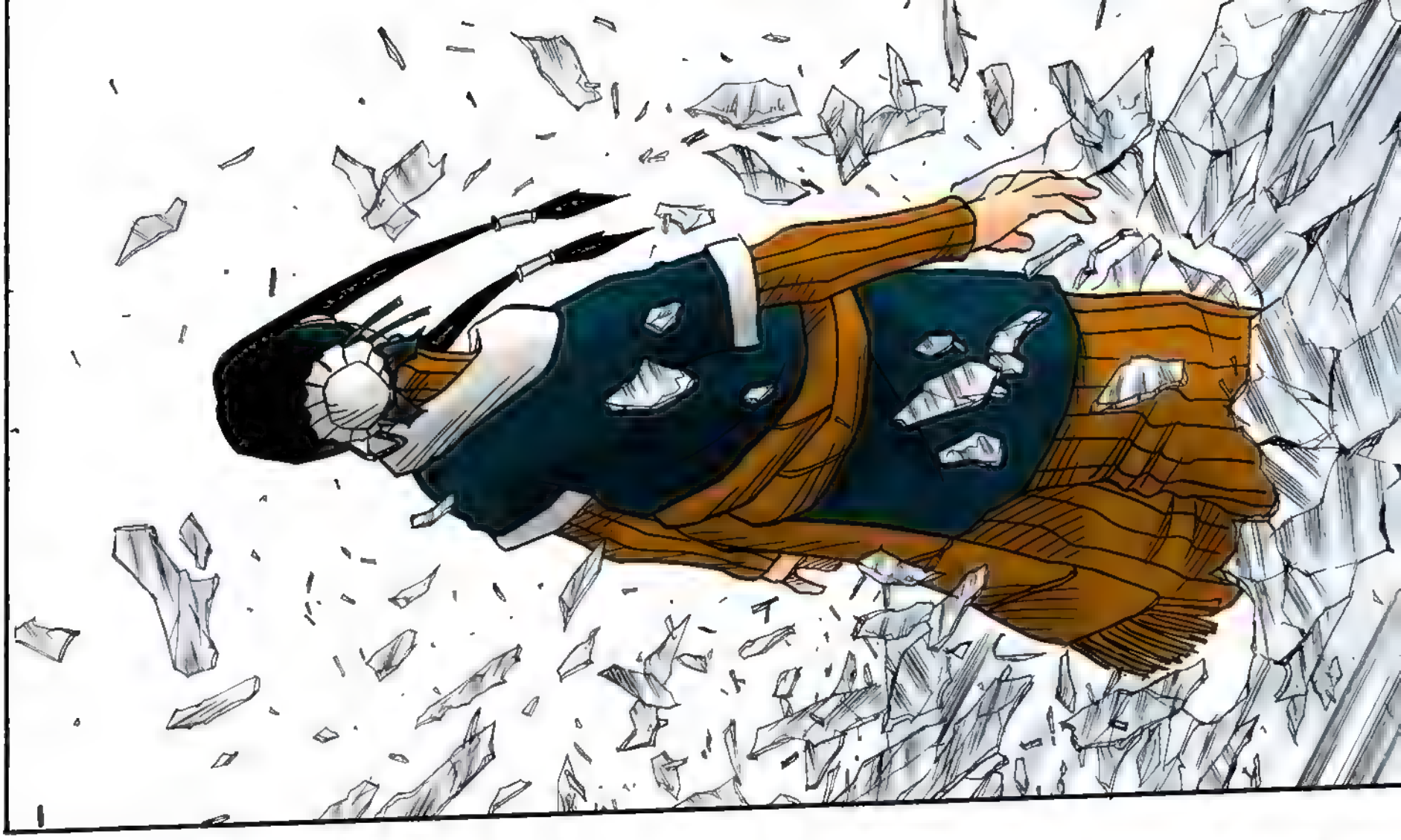
キリキリ

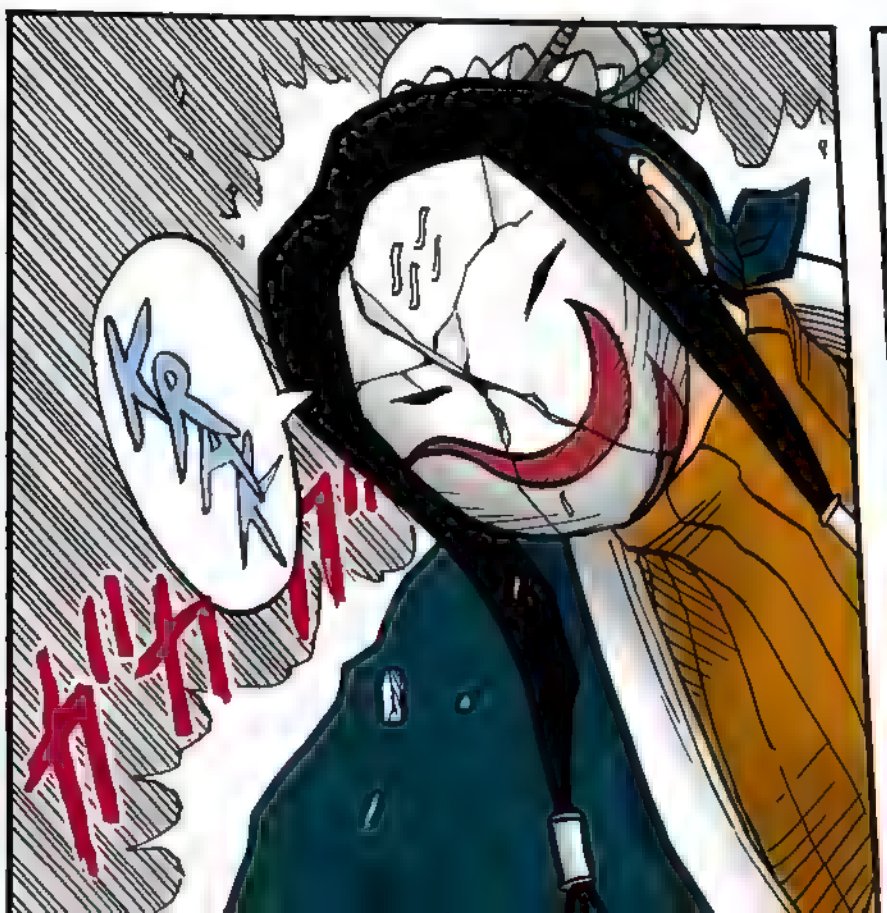
OW...

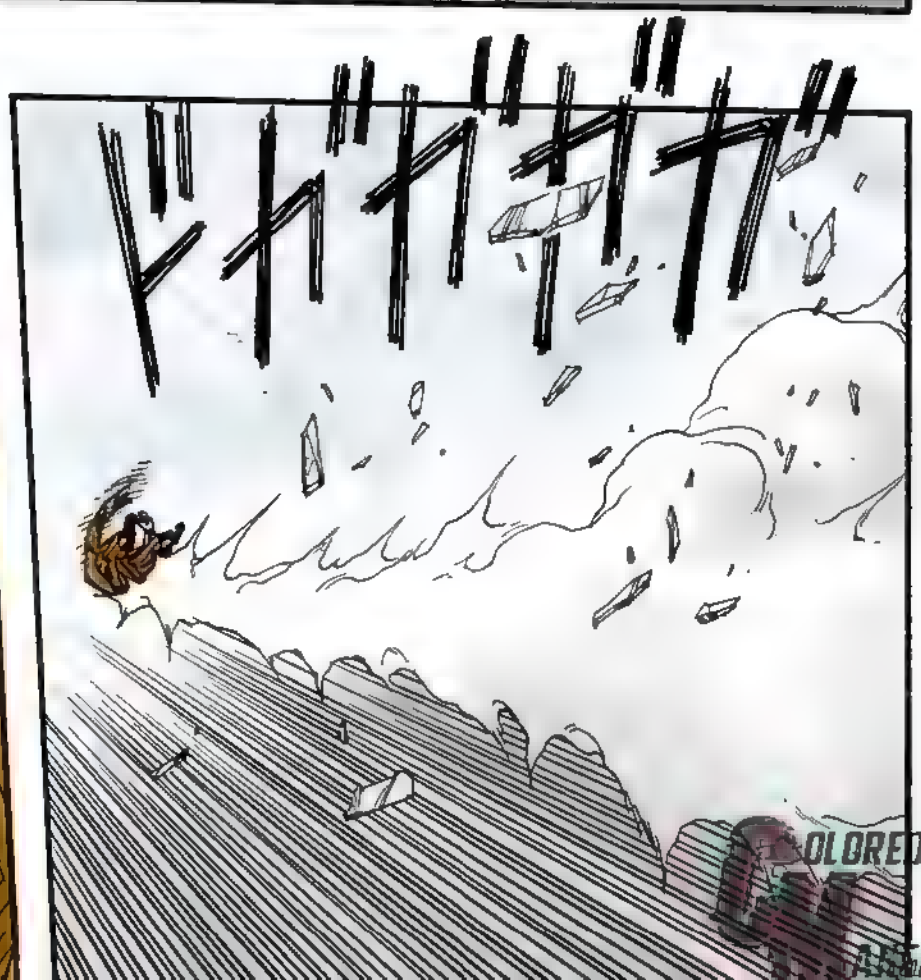
!!

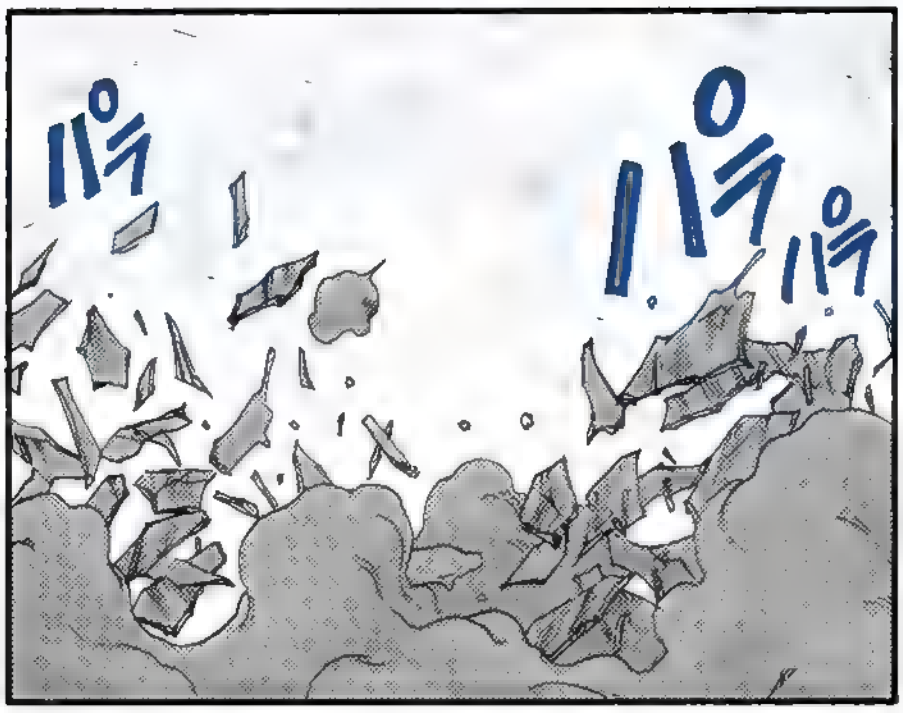
COLORED MANGA.COM

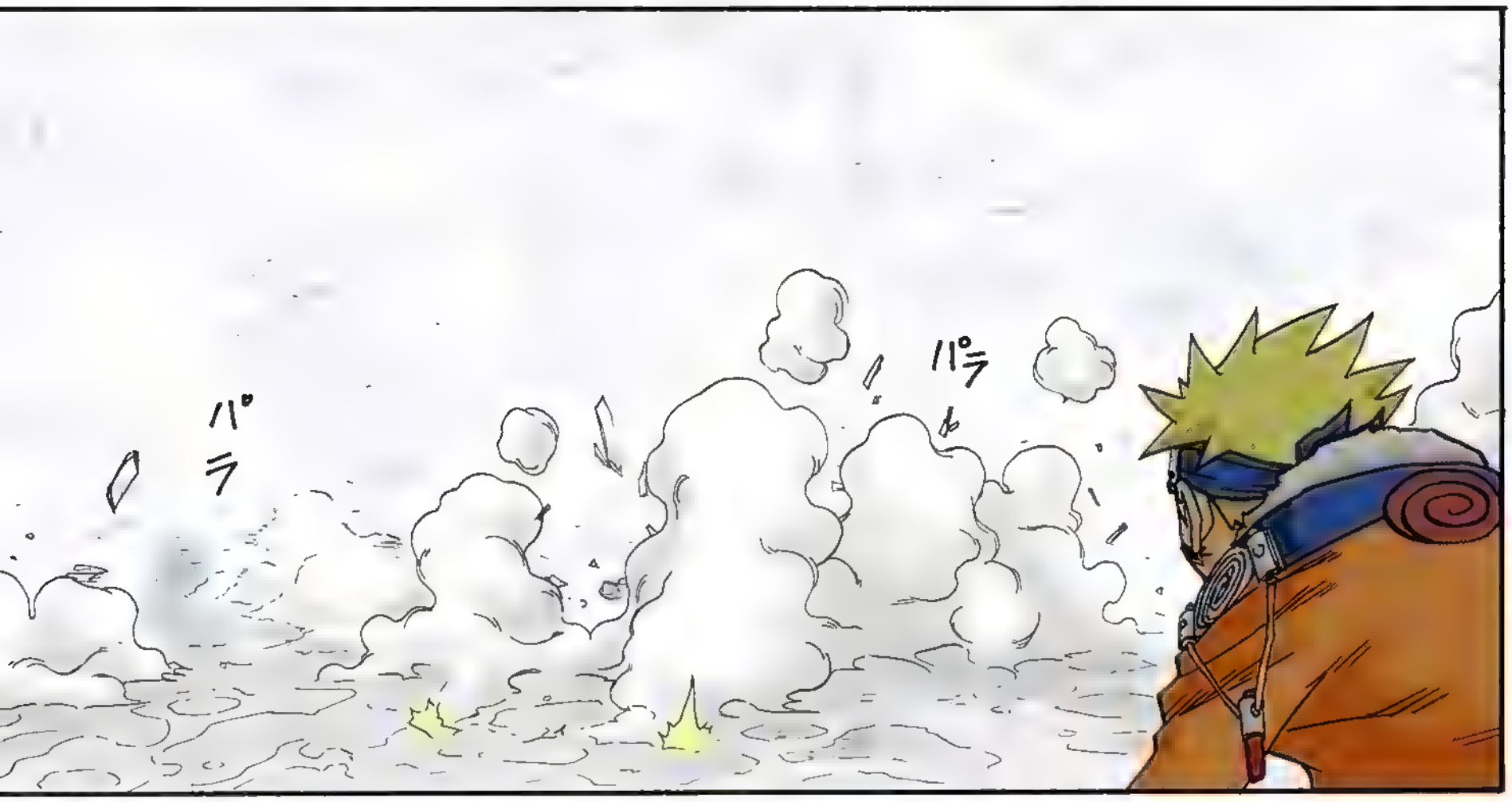
!!!

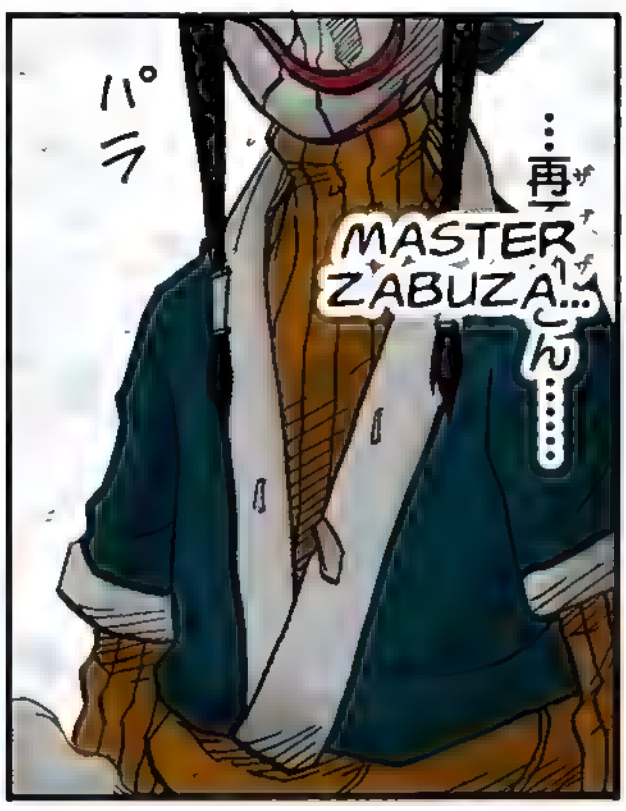



KRAK


OLORED







COLORED MANGA.COM

AH

…ボクは…!!……

この敵(かな)いAM FINISHED.には せん……

COLORED MANGA.COM

MASTER ZABUZA...

師匠(サ)斬さん……

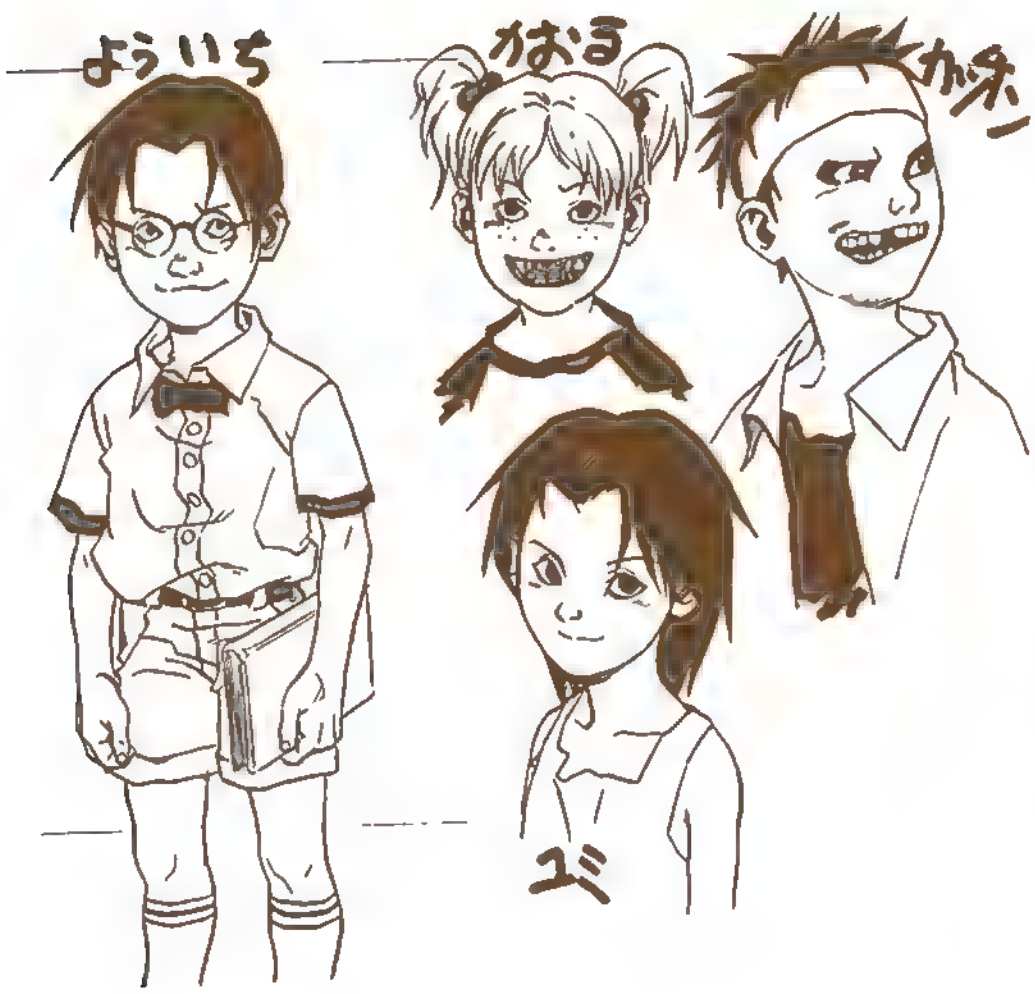
パラ

COLORED MANGA.COM

KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S FIRST MANGA REJECT SPECIAL!

THE CHARACTER DESIGNS TO THE LEFT ARE FROM A FAILED PROJECT OF MINE CALLED "WANDERING DETOUR" THAT I CAME UP WITH RIGHT AFTER I WON THE HOP-STEP STAR AWARD.

THE STORY IS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KID NAMED AKIRA AND HIS FRIENDS KATCHIN AND KAORU FIND A WALLET ON THE WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL, AND OF ALL OF THE TROUBLE THAT ENSUES WHEN THE THREE OF THEM DECIDE TO KEEP THE MONEY THAT THEY FIND AND SPEND IT ON THEMSELVES. MAYBE IT WAS TOO HARD TO FOLLOW, OR SIMPLY TOO DOWN-TO-EARTH FOR A BOYS' ADVENTURE MAGAZINE... BUT FOR WHATEVER REASON, IT WAS SUMMARILY REJECTED.



IT WAS MY FIRST REJECTION EVER. BUT I WAS SUCH A KID BACK THEN, EVEN GETTING MY FIRST REJECTION SEEMED LIKE A BIG DEAL, ANOTHER PROFESSIONAL MILESTONE I'D PASSED. FOR THE LONGEST TIME, I'D BEEN READING OTHER MANGA CARTOONISTS' TALES OF WOE ABOUT THE REJECTIONS THEY'D GOTTEN, AND I'D BEEN FEELING A LITTLE LEFT OUT. WITH "WANDERING DETOUR," I WAS FINALLY IN THE CLUB! I EVEN BRAGGED ABOUT IT A LITTLE. LIKE I SAID, I WAS A KID THEN. NOW, I'M A TRUE PROFESSIONAL, AND I AGREE WITH MY FRIENDS: "REJECTION SUCKS!" (LAUGHTER)

COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー
29：
大切な人(たいせつひと)…!!
SOMEONE PRECIOUS TO YOU...!!

COLORED
MANGA.COM

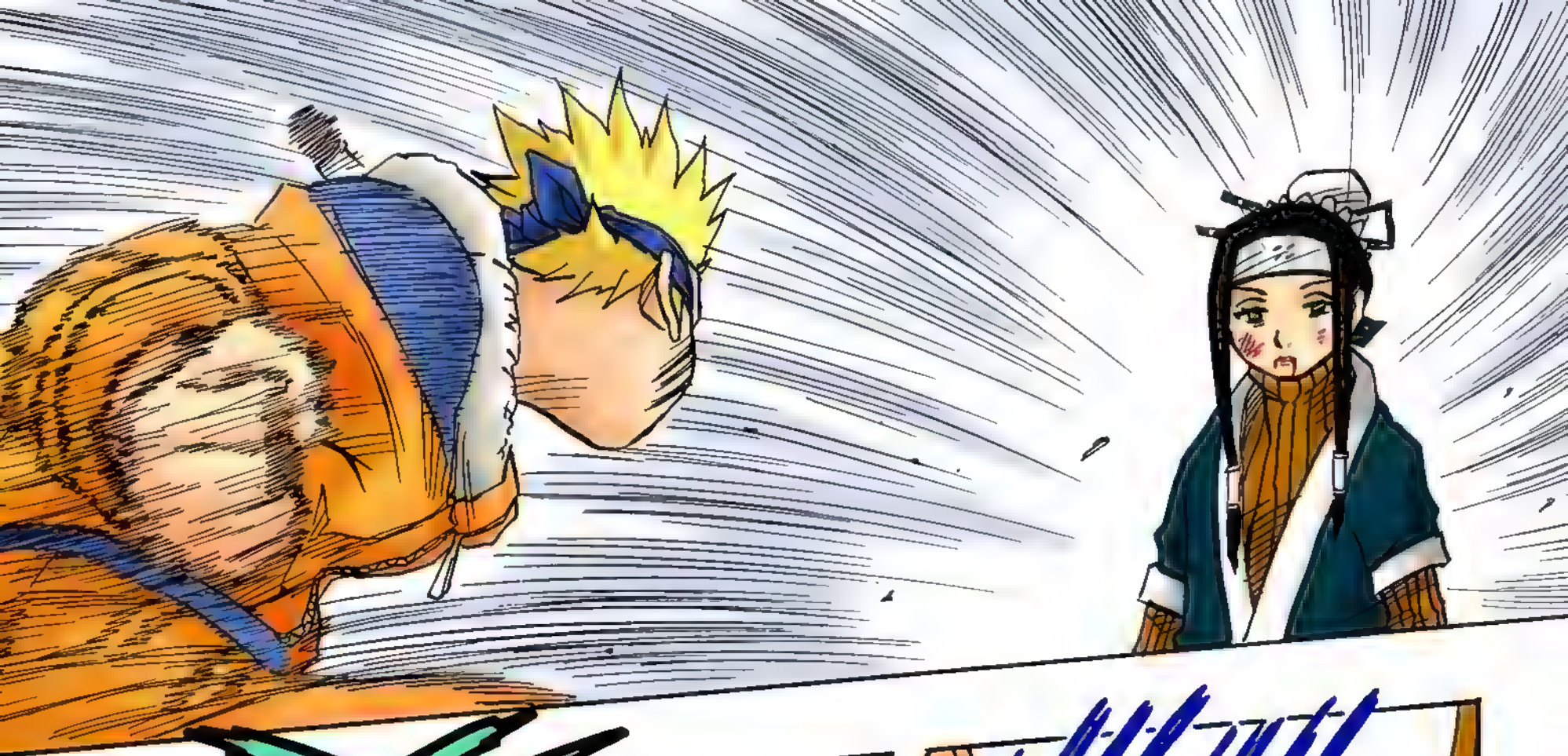
MASTER ZABUZA...
斬(ザ)さん…

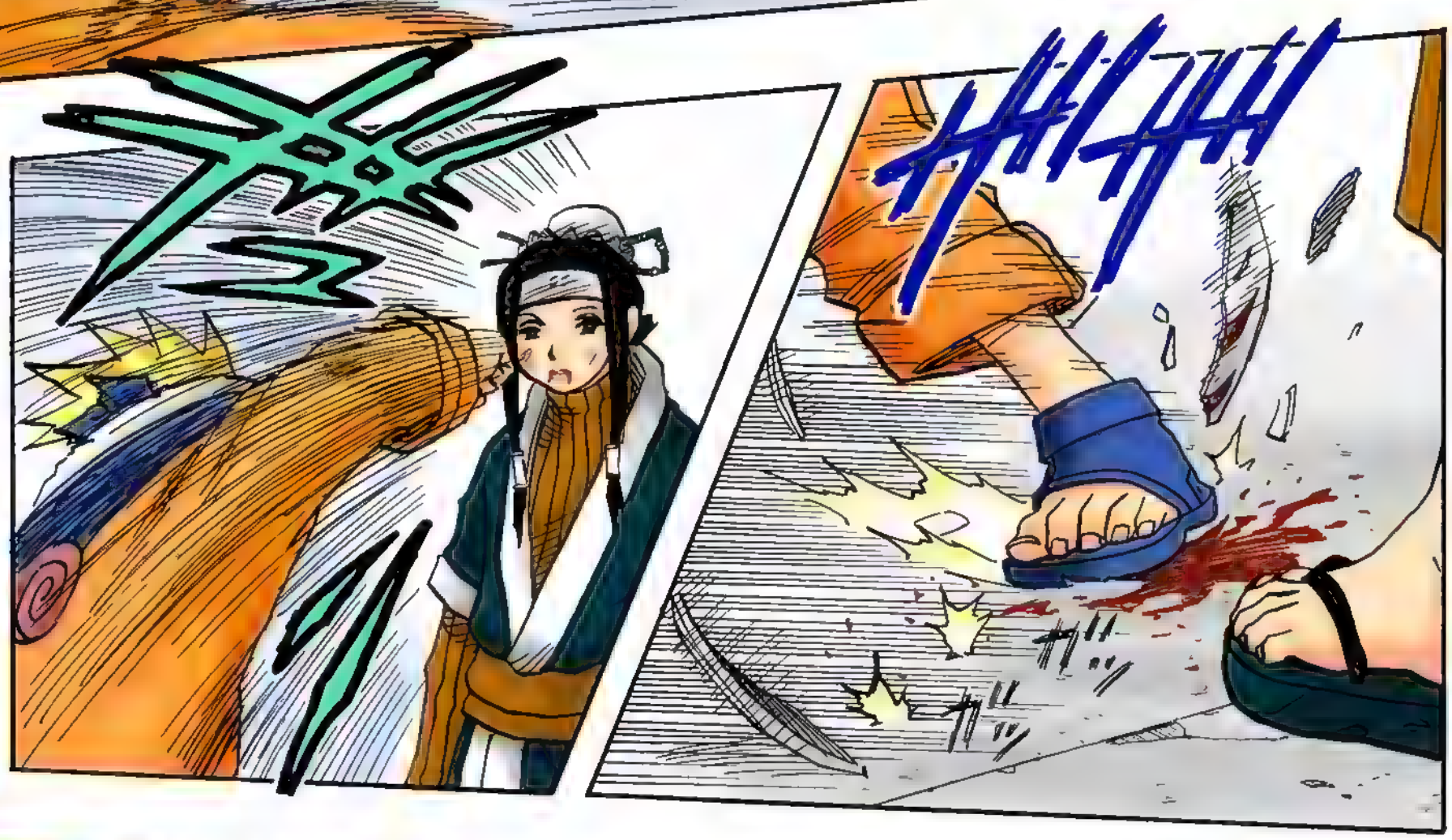
ボ!…
クは…

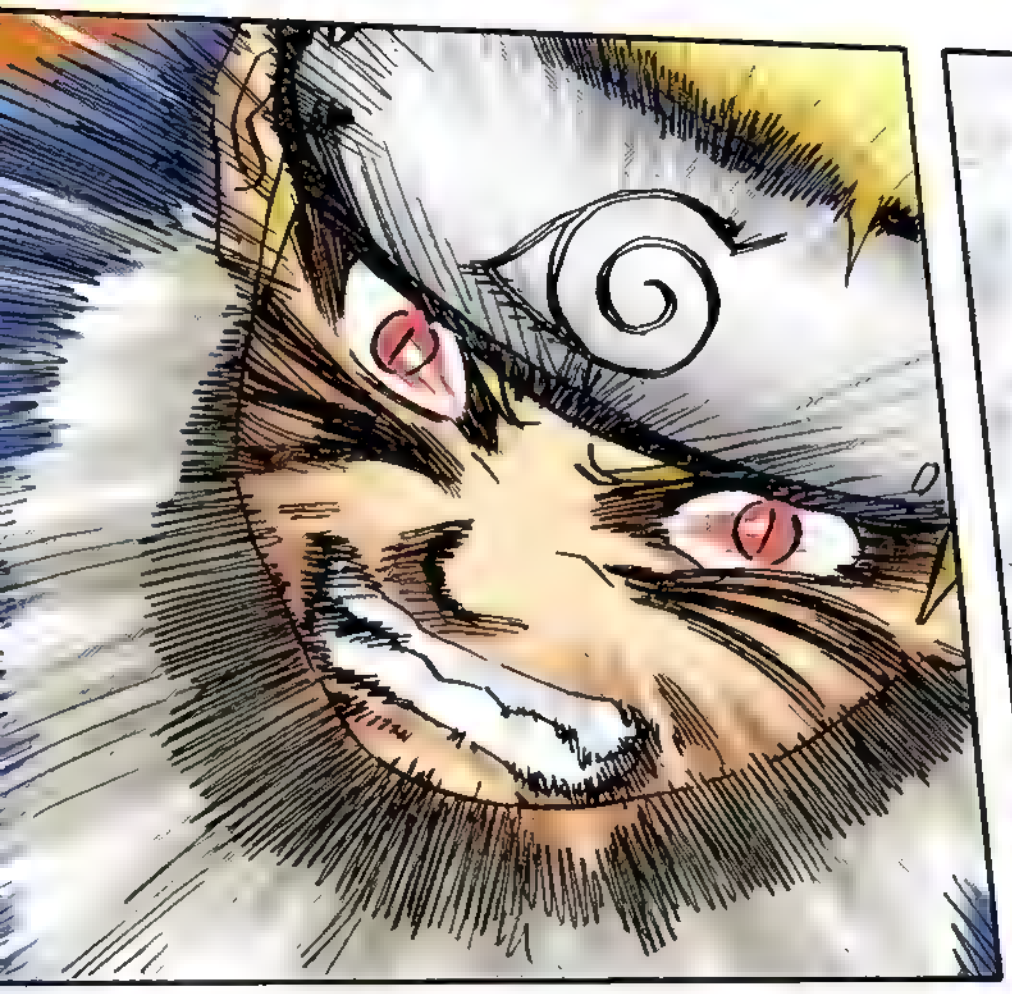
I'M…
クは…

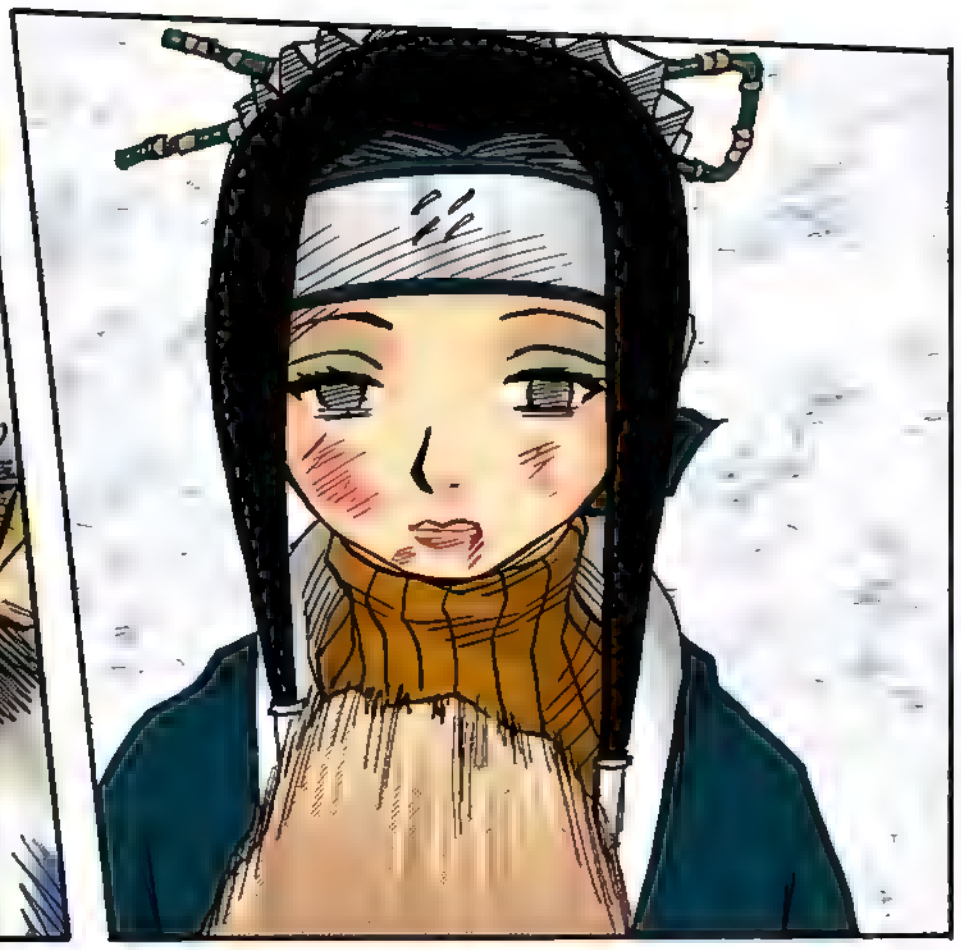
ポタ

COLORED MANGA.COM



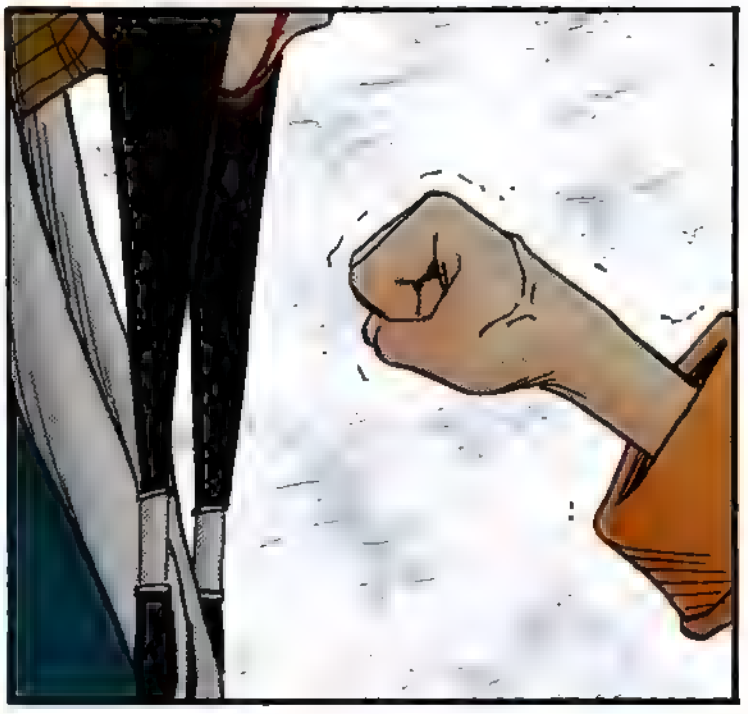




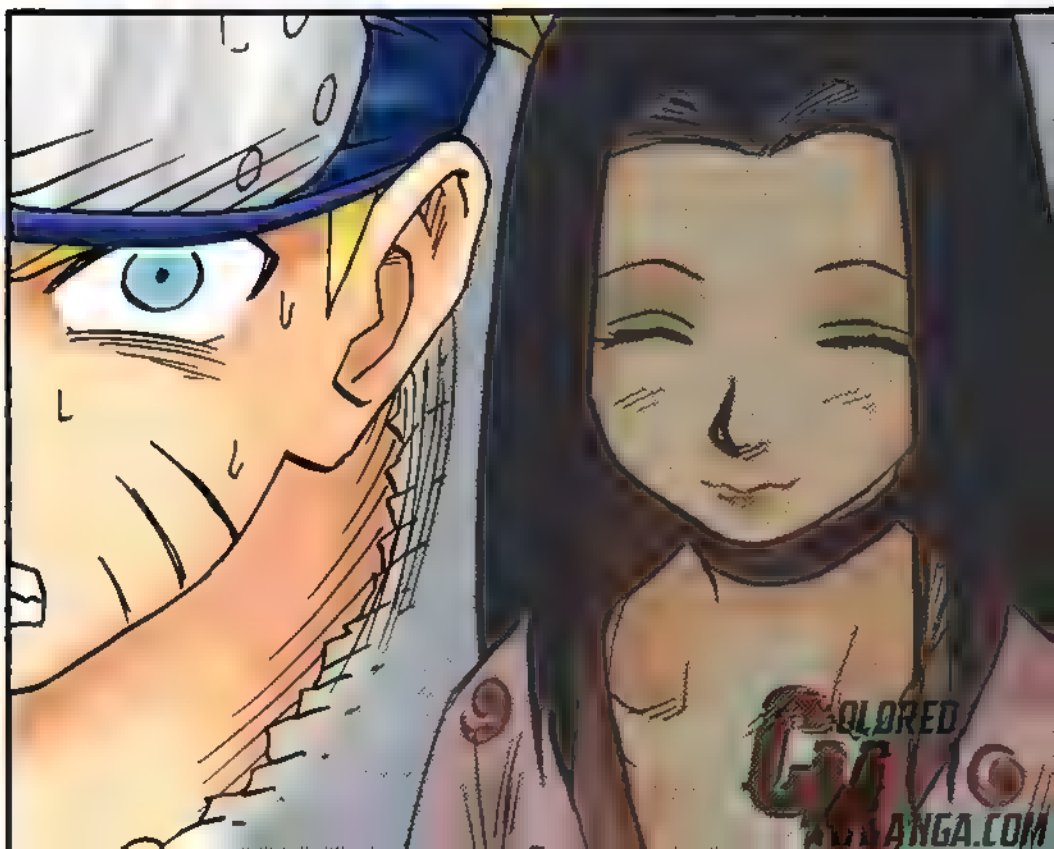


COLORED MANGA.COM

...
Y-YOU'RE... THE KID I MET THIS MORNING...!!



WHY DID YOU STOP?
...


COLORED
MANGA.COM

I MURDERED YOUR COMRADE... YOUR BELOVED FRIEND...

... AND YOU STILL SPARE ME?!

KOFF!

GRAAAAP!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

I'M WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES... TO PROTECT THE ONE I CARE ABOUT MOST...

夢 た

...DO YOU... HAVE ANYONE SPECIAL IN YOUR LIFE? すか?

君 み

DOING SO IS MY OWN DREAM.

夢 ゆめ

HUFF

ALL THE POWER YOU HAD BEFORE... WHERE IS IT? YOU CAN'T HOPE TO KILL ME WITH THE MEAGER FORCE YOU PUT INTO THAT BLOW.

!

BUT DON'T YOU SEE?

... THAT SHOWING MERCY TO AN ENEMY IS KINDNESS.

THEY SPARE THE FOE WHOSE LIFE IS IN THEIR HANDS...

OFTEN PEOPLE HAVE IT WRONG, MISTAKENLY BELIEVING...

...TO GO ON LIVING... ALONE AND UNLOVED... WHEN DEFEAT'S ALREADY COST YOU YOUR DREAM!

IT'S AN EMPTY EXISTENCE...

COLORED MANGA.COM

YOU'VE TAKEN AWAY MY REASON FOR LIVING!

MASTER ZABUZA HAS NO USE FOR A WEAK SHINOBI.

SAY WHAT--?!

THAT MERCENARY SCUMBAG DOESN'T CARE WHO HE WORKS FOR OR WHO GETS HURT, JUST SO SOMEONE PAYS HIM!

WHY WASTE ALL THAT DEVOTION ON SUCH A CREEP?!

WHEN PEOPLE ARE PROTECTING SOMETHING TRULY PRECIOUS TO THEM, THEY TRULY CAN BECOME... AS STRONG AS THEY MUST BE! んです

!!

WHY...

...

IS THAT BROWLESS WONDER REALLY PRECIOUS TO YOU - YOUR "BELOVED FRIEND?!!!"

COLORED MANGA.COM

...

MY...

!

ONCE... I WAS PRECIOUS. I BELONGED... TO...

...

!

...

...PARENTS.

I WAS BORN IN A SNOWY, LITTLE VILLAGE IN THE LAND OF MIST.

AND I WAS HAPPY... MY PARENTS WERE GOOD, KIND PEOPLE.

COLORED MANGA.COM

JUST AS I WAS GETTING OLD ENOUGH TO REALLY NOTICE THE WORLD AROUND ME...

...SOMETHING HAPPENED.

BUT...

...BLOOD...?

BLOOD. MY BLOOD.

...

WHAT HAPPENED?

...LIKE WHAT...?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

SO...

...

COLORED MANGA.COM

WHY--?

...AND TRIED TO KILL ME.

MY FATHER KILLED MY MOTHER..

...UNTIL WE CEASED TO BE LOOKED ON AS WARRIORS OR EVEN WEAPONS, BUT WERE CONDEMNED AS THE HARBINGERS OF DOOM.

INHERITED SKILLS THAT WERE EXPLOITED AND TWISTED, USED TO CAUSE HORRIBLE SLAUGHTER...

"KEKKEI GENKAI"...?!

THE LAND OF THE MIST HAS BEEN THE SCENE OF GENERATIONS OF NON-STOP WAR. AMONG ITS PEOPLE, THOSE WHO POSSESS THE *KEKKEI GENKAI* - SKILLS THAT COME OUT OF OUR GENETIC INHERITANCE - ARE LOATHED AS ABOMINATIONS.

THE TERM REFERS TO CLANS WHOSE BLOODLINES GIVE THEM POWERS LIKE MINE.

WE ARE SPECIAL. WE ARE POWERFUL. AND WE ARE FEARED.

I'M SURE THE BOY I KILLED, WHO SHARED THAT SKILL, MUST ALSO HAVE GROWN UP KNOWING THE PAIN OF WHICH I SPEAK.

EXPOSURE MEANT CERTAIN DEATH!

AFTER THE WARS WERE OVER, WE WHO POSSESSED THIS TRAIT WERE HUNTED, ONLY ABLE TO SURVIVE BY HIDING THE EXISTENCE OF OUR SKILLS AND OUR BLOODLINE AWAY.

COLORED BY MANGA.COM

...CAME FROM SUCH A CLAN... AND BEFORE I EVEN REALIZED WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO DO...

MY FATHER HAD DIED... BY MY HAND.

MY FATHER LEARNED... THAT MY MOTHER...

I PLAN TO RESTORE MY CLAN. AND THERE'S SOMEONE I HAVE SWORN TO KILL.

...

THAT WAS THE MOST PAINFUL THING...

AND I WAS FORCED TO ACCEPT IT.

I KNEW WHAT I WAS.

AND THEN IT CAME TO ME.

SUPERFLUOUS. UNWANTED. SHUNNED.

ACCEPTING THAT I WAS ALONE IN THE WORLD.

THE MOST PAINFUL THING...?

COLORED MANGA.COM

HE... SOUNDS... LIKE THE WAY I FEEL!

おぼよ…

!!

-- WOULDN'T THAT PERSON BECOME THE MOST IMPORTANT... TREASURED... PERSON IN YOUR LIFE?!

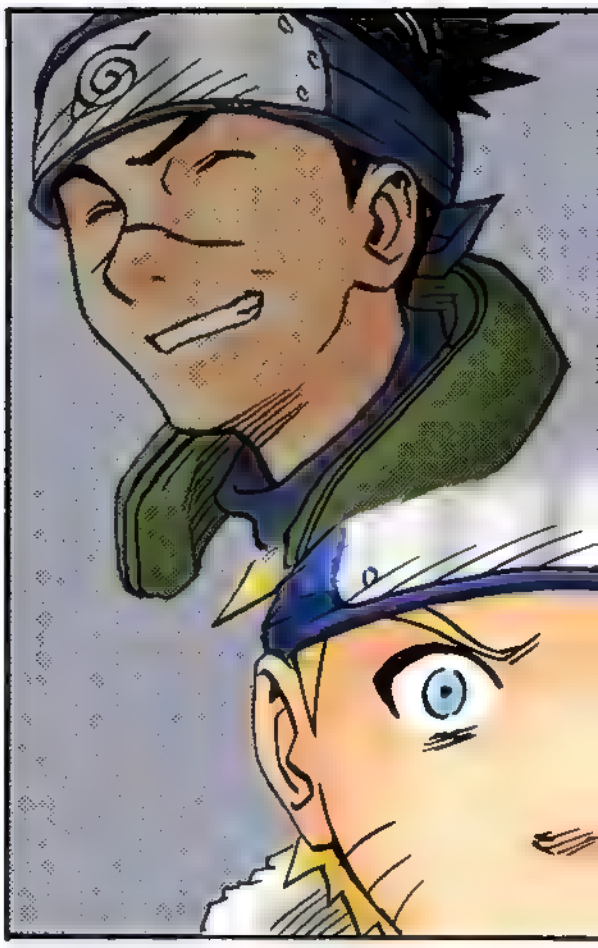
IF YOU HAD SOMEONE IN YOUR LIFE WHO DID MORE THAN THAT... WHO ACKNOWLEDGED YOUR EXISTENCE - EVEN CARED FOR YOU --

THAT YOU WANTED TO BECOME THE NUMBER ONE NINJA IN YOUR VILLAGE AND MAKE EVERYONE RESPECT YOU?

DIDN'T YOU TELL ME...

THE VERY THING IN ME THAT MADE EVERYONE ELSE HATE ME - HE DIDN'T JUST OVERLOOK IT. HE CHERISHED IT. HE WANTED IT!

...MASTER ZABUZA ADOPTED ME, KNOWING I CAME FROM A *KEKKEI GENKAI* BLOODLINE.



COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

COME!

FROM THIS DAY ON, YOU BELONG TO ME, BODY, SOUL... の AND BLOOD!

I WAS SO HAPPY...!!

AND TO DO THAT, WHAT I NEED FROM YOU IS NEITHER LOVE NOR AFFECTION AND SUPPORT. WHAT I REQUIRE IS... は… … … のは

I UNDER-STAND. す… って

BUT...! I'VE SWORN AN OATH TO RETURN ONE DAY... AS A CONQUERER, WHO'LL CRUSH THEM ALL BENEATH MY FEET! せる!! ってくる…

I HAVE BAD NEWS FOR YOU, HAKU... I'M LEAVING THIS LAND TONIGHT! レは るつもりだ…

COLORED MANGA.COM

KEEP ME BESIDE YOU. AND I'LL STRIKE WHERE YOU TELL ME TO STRIKE, KILL WHOMYOU TELL ME TO KILL.

安(あん)心(しん)して下(くだ)さい…
武(ぶ)ボ AM YOUR WEAPON
AND YOUR TOOL.
不斬(ザ)さんの
道(どう)具(ぐ)です…

FORGIVE ME ... MASTER ZABUZA... YOUR TOOL HAS FAILED YOU.

GOOD BOY.
い
だ…

フ…
HEH...

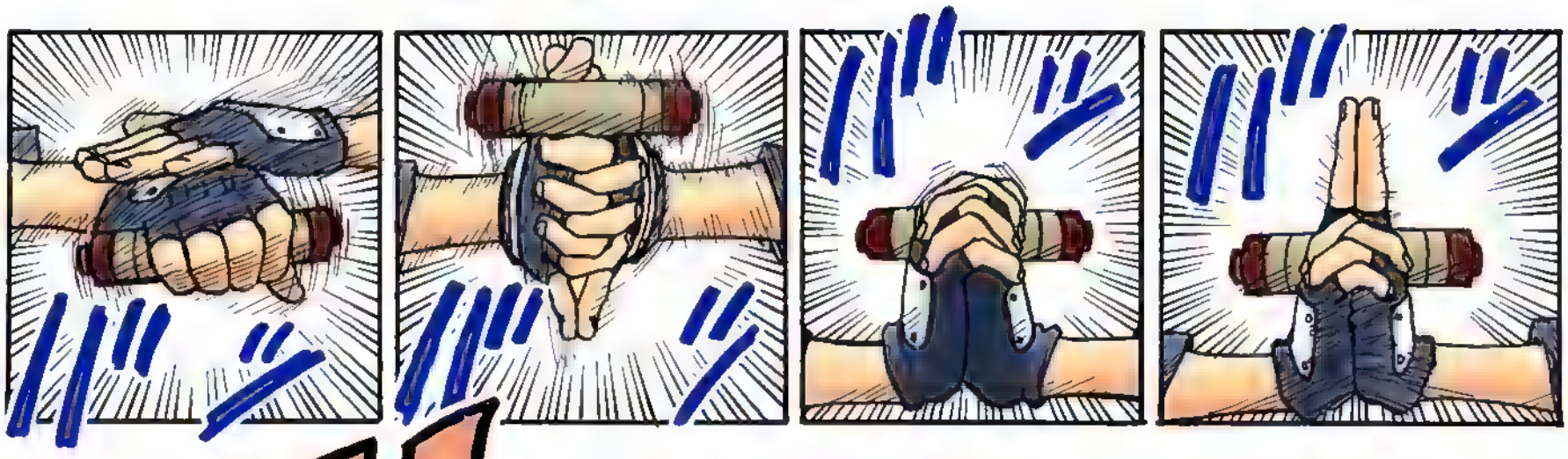
TAKE MY LIFE.

PLEASE...

NARUTO...

!

COLORED MANGA.COM



忍法 口寄せ!!
SHINOBI CONJURATION!!

土遁 追牙の術!!
EARTH STYLE! FANGED VENGEANCE TECHNIQUE!!

COLORED
MANGA.COM

YOU CAN'T EVEN TELL WHERE I TRULY AM!!!

THIS POSTURING WILL GET YOU NOWHERE, KAKASHI!

!!

YOU ARE COMPLETELY ENMESHED IN MY SPELL!

WHILE I, ON THE OTHER HAND, KNOW EXACTLY WHERE YOU ARE AND EXACTLY HOW TO DEFEAT YOU!!!

NO!!!!

ドゴ

ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ

EH--?!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ガッ!!

ガッ!!

ガチッ

!!!

ガッ!!

WHEN YOUR EYES AND YOUR EARS HAVE LET YOU DOWN --

-- YOU CAN ALWAYS FOLLOW YOUR NOSE!

WH-WHAT ARE WE HEARING?

!

COLORED
ANGA.COM

ドン

UHN...

THIS CONJURATION IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR TRACKING.

IT WORKED BECAUSE YOU SHUT YOUR EYES IN THE MIST.

COLORED MANGA.COM

...MY LITTLE NINJA PUPS COULDN'T MISS IT!

IT'S WHY I WENT OUT OF MY WAY TO BLEED A BIT DURING BOTH OF OUR EARLIER ENCOUNTERS.

THE SMELL OF MY BLOOD IS ALL OVER YOU AND YOUR WEAPONS, SO THICK...

UHN...

UGH...

SO... WHO'S ENMESHED IN WHOSE SPELL NOW?

EVERY DOG HAS HIS NOSE... AND THEY ALL KNOW **YOU STINK.**

YOUR FUTURE IS DEATH.

THE FOG IS LIFTING. I CAN SEE YOUR FUTURE...

COLORED MANGA.COM

KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S SECOND MANGA REJECT SPECIAL.

THE DESIGN TO THE LEFT IS FROM ANOTHER FLOP - A MANGA CALLED "ASIAN PUNK", THAT WAS RESOUNDINGLY REJECTED AT EVERY TURN. TO BE FRANK, THE PREMISE WAS—NOT COINCIDENTALLY—KINDA LIKE "GHOSTBUSTERS."

THE MAIN CHARACTER WAS A KID WITH AN AXE TAKING ON AN EVIL FENG-SHUI MASTER WHO COULD SUMMON AND CONTROL EVIL SPIRITS... AND THE MAIN CHARACTER WASN'T REALLY HUMAN HIMSELF, BUT HAD BEEN CREATED BY SOME GREATER POWER. THERE WAS MORE, BUT WE DON'T NEED TO GO INTO IT HERE.

THE THING IS, WITH THAT STORY, MY PRIZE-WINNING SERIES KARAKUR, AND NARUTO, IT OCCURS ME TO ME THAT MY HEROES ARE ALWAYS THESE YOUNG GUYS. I GUESS I'M JUST A SUCKER FOR BOYS' ADVENTURE TALES!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー
30：YOUR FUTURE IS...!!
お前の未来は…!!

COLORED
MANGA.COM

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR BLUFFS.

YOU SAY MY FUTURE IS DEATH...?

YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN.

ZABUZA...

THERE'S NO WAY OUT. FACE IT.

WHO'S BLUFFING NOW?

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE.

COLORED MANGA.COM

WE KNOW ALL ABOUT THE FAILED COUP YOU AND YOUR FOLLOWERS STAGED, AND ABOUT THE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE MIZUKAGE, THE WATER SHADOW, LEADER OF YOUR PEOPLE.

THE DAY YOU DESERTED THE LAND OF THE MIST AND BECAME A TURNCOAT AND RENEGADE, YOUR NAME AND YOUR ACTIONS WERE REPORTED TO US AT KONOHA VILLAGE.

YOU SCHEMED YOUR SCHEMES...

...

IT'S WHY YOU'D STOOP TO WORK FOR A PARASITE LIKE GATÔ.

YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO RAISE FUNDS FOR A SECOND ATTEMPT, AND BARELY STAYING A JUMP AHEAD OF THE SHINOBI HUNTERS... WHICH IS WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE.

SWORD ART ONLINE ANIME.COM

LIGHTNING BLADE!!

雷切(らいきり)!!

YOU'RE A LOOSE CANNON...

I CAN ALMOST SEE... THE CHAKRA IN HIS PALM...

WH-WHAT THE!!

!!

AND THE BRIDGE YOU'RE TRYING TO PREVENT HIM FROM COMPLETING IS THE LAND'S HOPE.

THE MAN YOU'RE TRYING TO KILL, MR. TAZUNA, IS THE HEART AND SPIRIT OF THIS PLACE.

COLORED MANGA.COM

THAT'S NOT WHAT A TRUE SHINOBI DOES.

YOU'RE WILLING TO SACRIFICE THIS PLACE AND EVERYONE IN IT, JUST TO ADVANCE YOUR OWN AMBITIONS.

AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO STOP.

SPARE ME THE CIVICS LESSON AND PHILOSOPHY. I'M FIGHTING FOR MY OWN IDEALS.

GIVE UP...

HUH?!

I'LL SAY THIS JUST ONCE MORE.

COLORED MANGA.COM

YOUR FUTURE IS DEATH.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

PLEASE, NARUTO. KILL ME. NOW.

:GASP!: !!

!

COLORED MANGA.COM

BUT WANTING TO DIE JUST 'CAUSE SOMEONE BEAT YOU IS CRAZY!!

WHAT IS WITH YOU? YOU'RE USED TO BEING THE TOUGHEST. YOU DON'T LIKE TO LOSE. I GET THAT!

YOUR BOSS MUST LIKE YOU FOR MORE THAN JUST THAT... RIGHT? DOESN'T HE?

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN JUST FIGHTING. THERE'S MORE TO YOU!

...

!

SURELY YOU CAN UNDER-STAND...

...

THAT DAY I MET YOU IN THE FOREST... I REMEMBER THINKING THAT WE WERE TWO OF A KIND...

IS THAT THE ONLY WAY? NO OTHER OUTCOME?

IS THAT...

YOU'LL HAVE TO BLOODY YOUR HANDS. FORGIVE ME FOR THAT.

COLORED MANGA.COM

YES...!!

...

...

I HOPE YOU FIND YOUR DREAM...

YOU...

COLORED MANGA.COM

...SASUKE HAD A DREAM, TOO...

...HE...

IF WE'D MET SOME OTHER WAY, SOMEPLACE ELSE, YOU AND ME'D PROBABLY HAVE BEEN FRIENDS.

YOU'RE GOING TO BE VERY STRONG.

THANK YOU.

COLORED MANGA.COM

THAT SUPER-THICK MIST... IT'S STARTING TO DISSIPATE...

HUH...

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE JUST STANDING THERE, GLARING AT EACH OTHER...

I SEE TWO PEOPLE.

!

ONE OF THEM'S MOVING!!

!!

OH!!

IT'S HARD TO MAKE OUT...

WHICH ONE IS YOUR MASTER KAKASHI?

COLORED MANGA.COM

RRRRROAR!!

!!

!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

I'M SORRY, NARUTO!

HUNH?!

I CAN'T DIE YET!!

バッ

バッバッ

COLORED MANGA.COM

WHAT?

!!!

パキ

パキ

ガリ

パキ

パキ

COLORED MANGA.COM

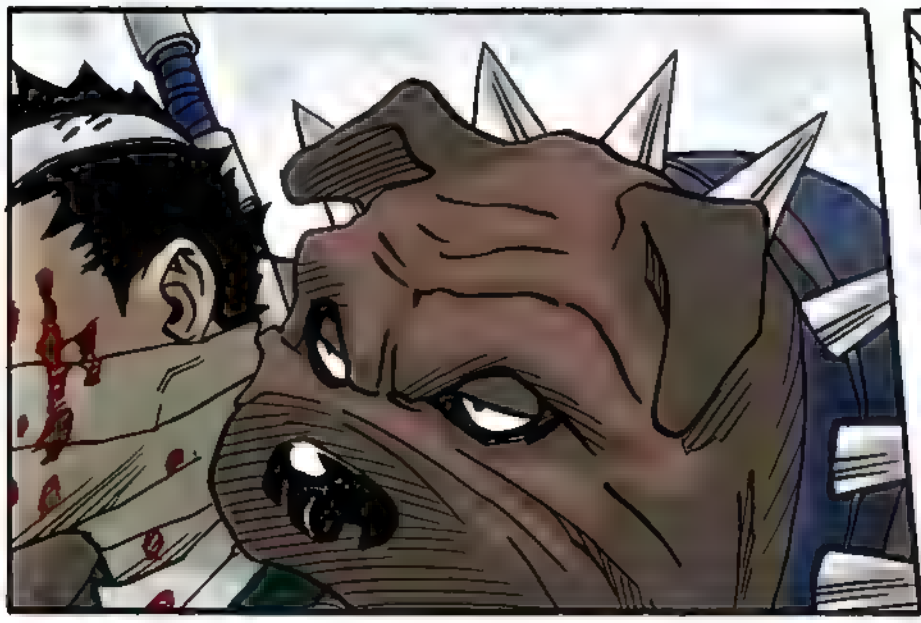
!!

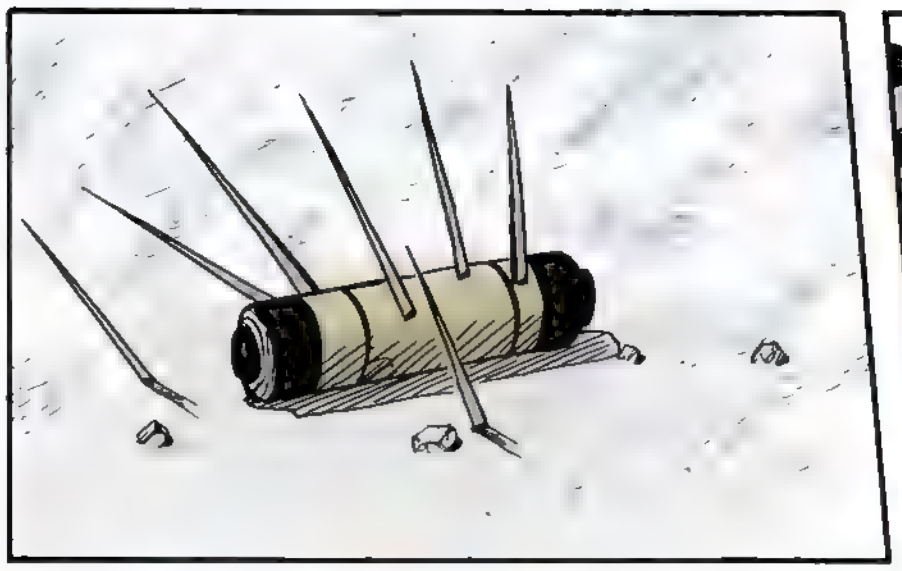
ズバッ

WH-WHAT THE-!!

AIEE!!

COLORED MANGA.COM





COLORED MANGA.COM

COLORED
MANGA.COM

COLORED MANGA.COM

!

-KOFF-

!

ZABUZA... S-SIR...

...YOU SAID MY FUTURE WAS DEATH...

HEH HEH... BUT YOU MISSED AGAIN, KAKASHI.

COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー 31：

それぞれの戦(たたか)い…!!

TO EACH HiS OWN STRUGGLE...!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

OPEN UP! PLEASE!!!

MISTER GI'ICHI!

I'M SORRY... INARI, WE'RE NOT GOING TO FIGHT BACK ANY MORE...

I NEED YOU TO COME WITH ME TO THE BRIDGE!!!

IF WE STICK TOGETHER, THIS TIME WE CAN BEAT GATô AND HIS WHOLE GANG!

COLORED MANGA.COM

NONE OF US WANTS ANY MORE LOSSES... ANY MORE REGRETS.

IF WE FIGHT, WE'LL BE THROWING AWAY A LOT OF LIVES.

WE'VE ALREADY SACRIFICED AND LOST SO MUCH.

!

YOUR FATHER...

..WAS A HERO. BUT HE'S GONE NOW.

...I HAVE TO FIGHT.

THAT'S WHY...

...I DON'T WANT ANY REGRETS EITHER.

...

...

...

...AND EVERY-ONE IN THE VILLAGE...

...I LOVE MY MA, AND GRANDPA, AND YOU...

A MAN HAS TO LIVE HIS LIFE SO THAT HE... DOESN'T END UP WITH ANY REGRETS...

COLORED MANGA.COM

THAT I CAN'T PROTECT ANYONE BY BEING A BIG CRYBABY.

AND I UNDERSTAND NOW...

ARE YOU SURE HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT LIKE THAT... BY HIMSELF?

LITTLE INARI IS GROWING UP TO BE A FINE YOUNG MAN, ISN'T HE...

.....

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN...!

HAVE TO. NO ONE IN THE VILLAGE WAS WILLING TO GO WITH ME.

WAIT! YOU CAN'T GO TO THE BRIDGE ALONE!

COLORED MANGA.COM

I MAY BE LITTLE...

...BUT I KNOW HOW TO FIGHT...

YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE BOY!

テク

テク

INARI, WAIT!

ガチャ

...

'CAUSE I'M MY DADDY'S SON.

!

THE MIST'S FADING... I'M SEEING THINGS! MORE CLEARLY...

キョロ

キョロ

HAKU...

WHERE IS HE?!

COLORED MANGA.COM

AH

IS THAT HIM?!

HUHNH?! !?

WHAT... WHAT IN...?!

WH-...

!!

PUFF

PUFF

PUFF

COLORED MANGA.COM

ISN'T THAT THAT BOY IN THE MASK...?!

HE JUMPED BETWEEN... TO SAVE ZABUZA...

THAT WAS BRILLIANT... HAKU.

HEH HEH...

...

...

...THE BOY...

!

BLOGGER NARUTO ANGA.COM

...IS も ALREADY...

...DEAD. なる

HE'S GOING TO COME RIGHT THROUGH THE KID TO GET ME! ンか斬ると

ガッ

COLORED MANGA.COM

I AM YOUR WEAPON AND YOUR TOOL...

MASTER KAKASHI!!

!!

TO THINK THAT HE'D GRANT ME THIS MARVELOUS CHANCE IN THE END!!

I REALLY DID FIND A TREASURE IN THAT GUTTER...

COLORED BY MANGA.COM

THAT UNFORGIVABLE SCUMBAG!

HEH HEH... SO...YOU WERE ABLE TO GET AWAY... BECAUSE POOR HAKU WAS ALREADY DEAD.

NARUTO... STAY OUT OF THIS!

!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ズッ

TAI

ナ…NARUTO…?

!

THIS IS MY FIGHT!!

SAKURA!!

NARUTO--!!! YOU'RE ALIVE--!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

NARUTO!! WHERE'S SASUKE?!!!

ドキン

WHAT ABOUT SASUKE?

HUH?

...

?

...

ダッ!!

!!

FOCUS, KAKASHI! DON'T LET YOUR-SELF BE DISTRACTED!!!

...

COLORED MANGA.COM

!

ヒ°ク ヒ°ク

-GACK-

カ"ッ

...

UH-HUHN.

SO THAT YOU WON'T BE DISOBEYING YOUR MASTER'S ORDER.

...I'LL STAY WITH YOU

ダ"ッ

COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

HH

!!

THIS ISN'T AN ILLUSION... IS IT...?

HE'S SO COLD.

スリ

... ALWAYS GOT PERFECT SCORES ON ALL MY TESTS IN SCHOOL.

I...

DON'T HOLD BACK FOR MY SAKE. THERE ARE TIMES IT'S WHEN RIGHT TO GIVE IN AND SHED SOME GOOD HONEST TEARS.

WE HAD A TEST ONE DAY. AND THE QUESTION WAS ...

I MEMORIZED EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE ONE HUNDRED RULES OF CONDUCT FOR NINJA AND SHINOBI. I USED TO WRITE THEM OUT WITH PRIDE.

!

!?

JUST LIKE ALWAYS, I WROTE IT DOWN.

"WHAT IS THE TWENTY-FIFTH RULE OF SHINOBI CONDUCT?"

...!

COLORED
ARGA.COM

"TH-THE MISSION IS THE ONLY PRIORITY. CARRY THAT IN YOUR HEART. AND NEVER, NEVER, SH-SHED A TEAR..."

"NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, TRUE SHINOBI MUST NEVER.. EVER.. SHOW THEIR EMOTIONS!

...

SOB

SOB

DRIP

DRIP

SOB!!

SO THIS... THIS IS WHAT A SHINOBI IS... IT'S UNBEARABLE...

SASUKE...

COLORED MANGA.COM

WHY...
WHY...
CAN'T
I
KEEP
UP...?

DAMN
IT!!

UHN...!

...!

COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

ガッ

ガ"

IT'S OVER. YOU JUST DON'T KNOW IT YET.

WHAT?!

NOW THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN BEAT ME.

HEH-HEH! I WONDER HOW THE FIGHT'S GOING!

COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

ハロー

ガル

ガル

THE TOOLS CALLED SHiNOBi

ナンバー32：忍という名の道具

...“DEMON”!

THIS IS GOOD-BYE...

ドシュ

!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー32：忍（しのび）という名（な）の道具（どうぐ）

COLORED MANGA.COM

!

DRIP

KOFF

ぶん

ボタ

ボタ

...

WHAT A PITY...

POK

WELL, HE'S CERTAINLY MADE A FINE MESS OUT OF YOU!

!

NO SPELLS. NO KATAS. NO CHAKRA.

NOW YOU CAN'T USE EITHER ARM.

UHN

COLORED MANGA.COM

HHH

ZABUZA!

"O

"O

HEH HEH HEH— THERE'S BEEN A SLIGHT CHANGE OF PLAN, ZABUZA. OR OF YOUR PLANS, ANYWAY.

—THIS WAS WHAT I HAD IN MIND ALL ALONG.

こいつ…が…

WHAT ARE YOU... DOING HERE? AND... WHY.... DID YOU... BRING... ALL OF THEM?!

GATÔ...

YOU MUST HAVE GUESSED. I NEVER INTENDED TO PAY YOU.

WHAT?

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE, "DEMON"... HERE AND NOW.

COLORED MANGA.COM

ALL OF YOU NINJA ARE SO EAGER TO FIGHT EACH OTHER. ONCE YOU'VE WORN EACH OTHER DOWN, COMMON THUGS CAN FINISH OFF THE REST.

IT'S SO MUCH SIMPLER TO HIRE *UKENIN*— RENEGADES— LIKE YOURSELF. NO ONE CARES WHAT I DO TO YOUR KIND ONCE THE JOB IS DONE.

...IT'S SUCH A BOTHER HIRING A SKILLED SHINOBI AFFILIATED WITH ONE OF THE TOP VILLAGES. IT'S EXPENSIVE... AND THEY TEND TO HAVE FRIENDS WHO OBJECT WHEN I BETRAY AND KILL THEM.

IT'S A GREAT BUSINESS PLAN— EFFICIENT AND INEXPENSIVE.

HEH HEH... YOU'RE NO DEMON...

MORE LIKE A **BABY** DEMON, IF THAT.

CALLING YOURSELF THE DEMON OF KIRIGAKURE IS JUST PLAIN FALSE ADVERTISING!

MY ONLY MISTAKE WAS HIRING YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THAT'S SOME CROWD!

WHO THE HECK ARE THEY?

THE SHAPE YOU'RE IN, WE'LL TAKE YOU DOWN WITHOUT EVEN BREAKING A SWEAT!

COLORED MANGA.COM

...WHICH SETTLES OUR DIFFERENCES.

I NO LONGER HAVE ANY REASON TO WANT TO ASSASSINATE TAZUNA...

OUR FIGHT IS OVER.

FORGIVE ME... KAKASHI...

!!

ウヒア

YOU'RE RIGHT.

HUH?

YEAH...

I STILL HAVE A SCORE TO SETTLE.

!

!

...THAT REMINDS ME...

コッ

コッ

COLORED MANGA.COM

YOU... CRUSHED MY ARM UNTIL YOU ALMOST BROKE THE BONES!

POKE

HAH.

DEAD MEAT. CARRION.

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING, YOU CREEP?!

HEY, WHY DON'T YOU DO SOMETHING?! HE WORKED FOR YOU! HE WAS PRACTICALLY YOUR SLAVE!!

HEY!!

GRAB

COOL DOWN. THINK. THERE'S A LOT OF THEM.

ARGA.COM

HE WAS YOUR COMRADE... YOUR PARTNER... HE WORKED FOR YOU FOR YEARS!!!

BUT YOU SHOULD CARE! THAT FAT SCUMBAG IS DESECRATING HIM!!!

!!

HAKU IS DEAD.

LIKE WHAT?

BUT...

I DIDN'T VALUE HAKU FOR HIMSELF... BUT FOR THE TAINT HIS BLOOD CARRIED... AND FOR WHAT HIS TALENTS COULD DO FOR ME.

I APOLOGIZE FOR NOTHING.

...GATŌ'S BEEN USING ME... AND I USED HAKU.

WEREN'T YOU LISTENING? IT'S A SHINOBI'S LOT. ALL OF US ARE EITHER USERS, OR TOOLS... OR BOTH.

STOP IT, NARUTO! LEAVE HIM ALONE. OUR QUARREL IS OVER.

!

BESIDES WHICH...

...

YOU...

DO YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?

HE'S STILL MY ENEMY!!!

SHUT UP--!!

...

-HUFF-

-HUFF-

-HUFF-

HE...

HE REALLY CARED ABOUT YOU!!

WHO IS THAT OBNOXIOUS BRAT?... HE'S BEEN MAKING QUITE A NUISANCE OF HIMSELF!

KO!!

COLORED BY MANGA.COM

WHEN PEOPLE ARE PROTECTING SOMETHING TRULY PRECIOUS TO THEM...
本当に何かを大切な人のために戦う時に
...THEY TRULY CAN BECOME... AS STRONG AS THEY MUST BE!
本当の強さってなんです

HE WAS DEVOTED TO YOU!!

DO YOU HAVE ANYONE SPECIAL IN YOUR LIFE?
大切な人がいるって…

I... FIND IT DIFFICULT TO EMBRACE THE FULL SHINOBI PHILOSOPHY.

BUT YOU THINK THAT'S JUST NOTHING, THAT HE WAS NOTHING. YOU DON'T FEEL A THING!

...

IS THAT HOW YOU GET... WHEN YOUR POWERS ARE AS STRONG AS YOURS ARE?

I'M WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES.. TO FULFILL THAT PERSON'S DREAMS...
「アイツ」の夢を叶えたい…
そのためならボクは TO THAT END, I WILL BECOME A TRUE SHINOBI..
きる

ARE YOU REALLY THAT HEARTLESS?

COLORED MANGA.COM

I'M WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES... TO FULFILL THAT PERSON'S DREAMS...

DOING SO IS MY OWN DREAM.

HE GAVE HIS LIFE FOR YOU!

TO DIE AS HIS TOOL...

I WAS SO HAPPY...!

HE DIED... WITHOUT ANY OF HIS DREAMS EVER COMING TRUE.

KID.

...

THAT'S... TOO MUCH, TOO CRUEL...

COLORED MANGA.COM

...NOT...

...ANOTHER WORD.

...

COLORED MANGA.COM

WHAT HAKU DID... WAS NOT JUST FOR ME.

WHILE WE FOUGHT, HE BROKE HIS HEART... OVER YOU... AND YOUR FRIENDS. THAT'S THE TRUTH.

...!

KID...

YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU KNOW.

...I'M GLAD MY LAST BATTLE... WAS AGAINST YOU...BOY.

...HUH?

!?

HE WAS TOO KIND... TOO GENTLE.

WOULD YOU LEND ME YOUR KUNAI KNIFE?

パラパラ

...

SURE.

HUNH? UH...

!!

AND I'VE LOST... EVERYTHING.

SAY WHAT WE WILL, DO WHAT WE WILL. IN THE END, WE SHINOBI ARE STILL JUST PEOPLE AFTER ALL... WITH FEELINGS ALL-TOO-HUMAN.

!

COLORED MANGA.COM

カ!!!

WHAT?!

カ!!

YEAH!!

カカカ!!

LET'S GO!

YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE!

EVEN IF YOU'RE A NINJA, YOU'RE HALF-DEAD, AGAINST ALL OF US!

カ!!

THAT'S ENOUGH! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? KILL ALL OF THEM!

A DEMON!!

A...

!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ドドド

HEH...

WH-WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?

UGH...

I... HAVE NO INTENTION... OF GOING TO THE SAME PLACE... AS HAKU...

I-IF YOU'RE IN SUCH A HURRY... TO BE REUNITED WITH YOUR LITTLE FRIEND... GO ALONE!

...TO HELL!!

...I'M TAKING YOU WITH ME...

!!

ONCE WE'RE IN HELL, I CAN TAKE MY TIME, AND SHOW YOU OVER... AND OVER... WHO IS, OR IS NOT, "A BABY DEMON"!

AIEEE--!

EVEN AN OGRE IN NAME ONLY... A WASHOUT FROM KIRIGAKURE VILLAGE... CAN BECOME A REAL DEMON IN HOW HE MEETS HIS DEATH.

AHH--!

KA-TA-!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ドン

ドサッ

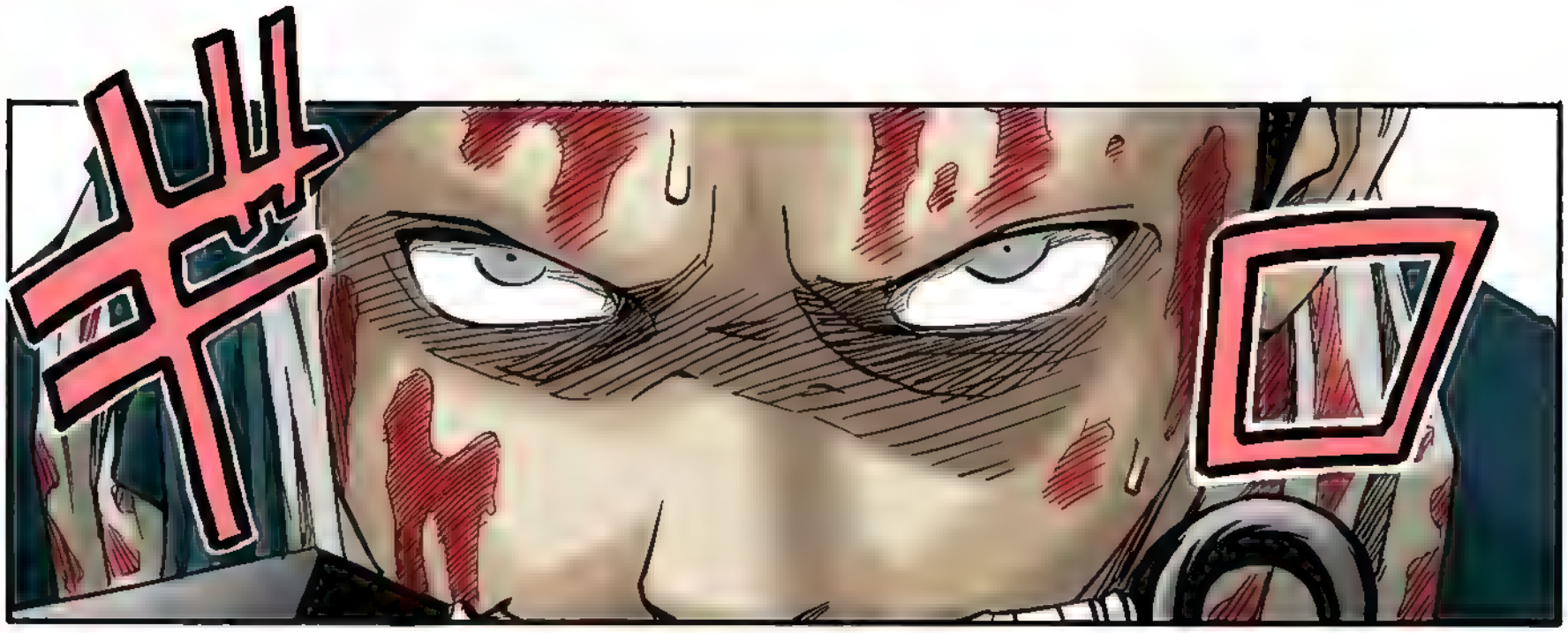
AUUGH!!

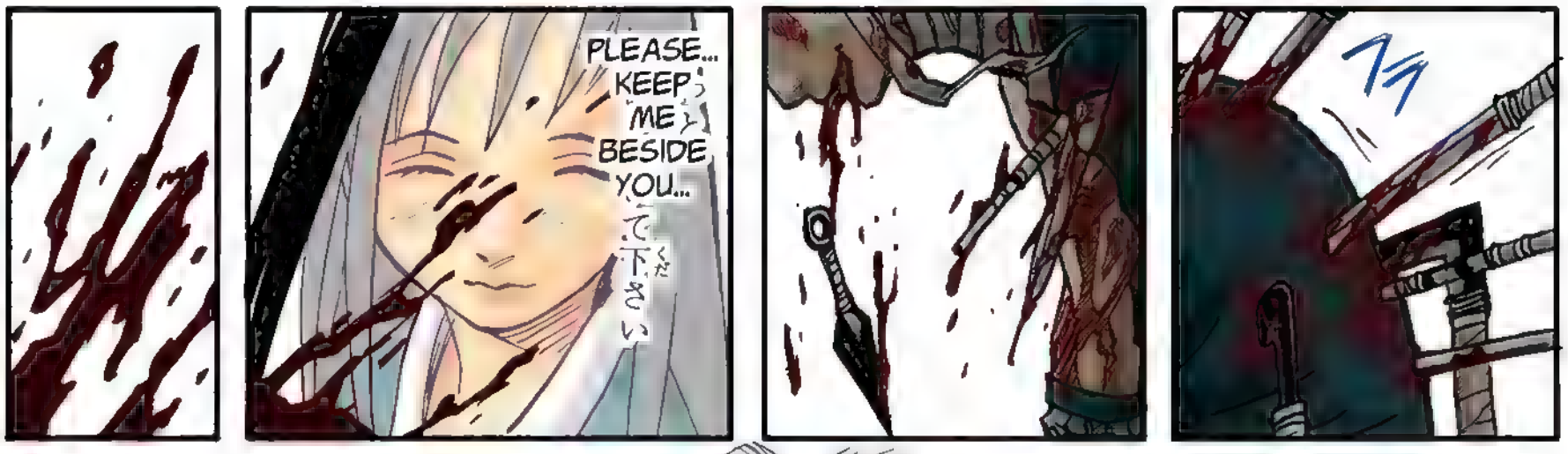
ガッ

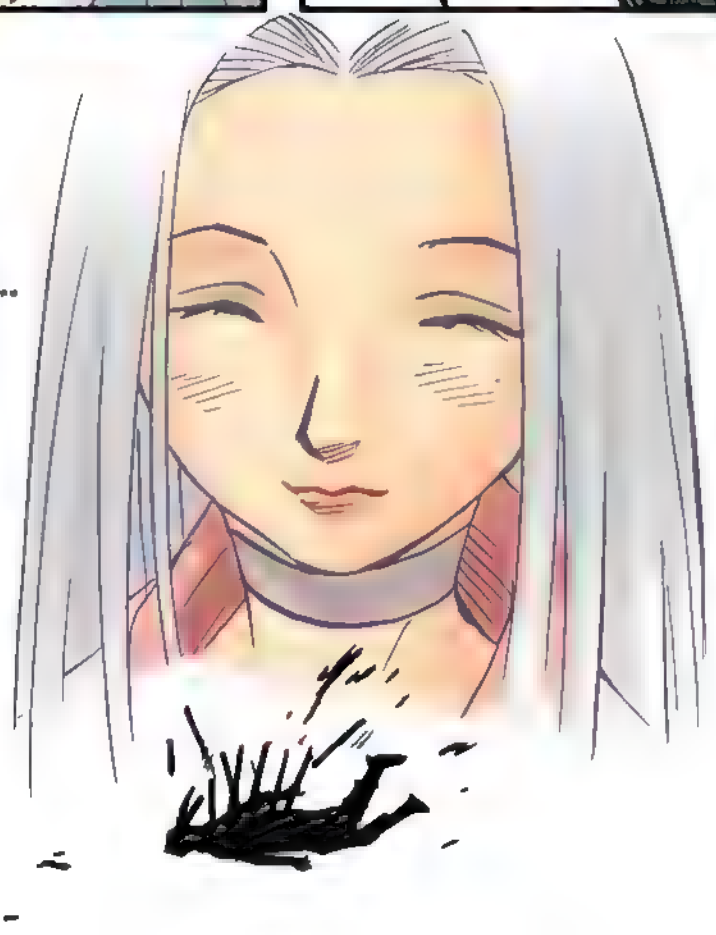
ガッ

...

COLORED
MANGA.COM







THANKS FOR EVERYTHING...

AND I'M SORRY...

IT'S... GOODBYE NOW, HAKU...

COLORED MANGA.COM

KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S THIRD MANGA REJECT SPECIAL!

ONCE AGAIN, THE ROUGH SKETCH TO THE LEFT IS FROM ANOTHER REJECTED MANGA. IT WAS A BASEBALL MANGA, TITLED SIMPLY "BASEBALL KING." I PLAYED BASEBALL MYSELF, BACK IN MY STUDENT DAYS, SO I (MAYBE FOOLISHLY) THOUGHT I WOULD TRY MY HAND AT A BASEBALL STORY.

DURING THIS PERIOD, I WAS IN A SITUATION WHERE, NO MATTER HOW MANY CONCEPTS FOR ADVENTURE MANGA I SKETCHED OUT, I DIDN'T GET ANY GREEN LIGHTS, SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD GO FOR A SPORTS THEME.

BUT WHEN I ACTUALLY TRIED TO DRAW ONE, PERHAPS BECAUSE I WAS WRITING FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, IT BECAME A MORE REALISTIC WORK THAN I HAD INTENDED.

THE REASON IT FAILED WAS THAT IT WAS TOO SERIOUS FOR A SHONEN PUBLICATION. IT WASN'T ENTERTAINMENT.

HOWEVER, "BASEBALL KING" ACTUALLY STILL HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART. I SOMETIMES FIND MYSELF THINKING, "THAT WAS SO FUNNY... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S A REJECTED, DARN IT...!"

MANGA.COM

THE BRIDGE OF THE HERO!!

ナンバー33：英雄の橋!!

THIS WAS THE END OF A MAN WHO LIVED FULL OUT.

DON'T LOOK AWAY.

YEAH...

...

AM I... AM I...?!

SOB

SOB

SAKURA...?!

SOB

AM I... DEAD...?

SOB

SASUKE...

LUB-DUP

SOB

SOB

ナンバー 33：英雄の橋!!

...SAKURA...

YOUR ARM'S HEAVY...

COLORED MANGA.COM

...?

フルフル

...!!

ポロ

OHHH!!

SASUKE!!!!

SASUKE!
SASUKE!!

!

SNIFF

ぼぁわあ

ポロポロ

SNIFF

...

SAKURA... YOU'RE HURTING ME...

OH!
S-SORRY...

サクラ… 良かった I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU, SAKURA.

COLORED MANGA.COM

NARUTO'S FINE! AND THE BOY IN THE MASK IS DEAD...

DON'T TRY TO MOVE!

!!

AND THAT... LITTLE CREEP IN THE MASK... WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?

...I'M ALL RIGHT... HOW'S NARUTO?

.....

HMM.

N- NO...

I MEAN... I'M NOT SURE. I DIDN'T SEE IT VERY WELL. BUT THE BOY DIED TRYING TO PROTECT ZABUZA.

DID NARUTO...?

DEAD--?!

!!

...

NO...

よかったぁ...

YOU'RE AMAZING, SASUKE. YOU SURVIVED A DEATHBLOW.

I... WAS AFRAID.... I THOUGHT...

COLORED MANGA.COM

...HE NEVER PLANNED TO... FROM THE START...

NOT ME. HIM.

oo!!

HE'S ALIVE!!

IT'S SASUKE. HE'S ALL RIGHT!!

SAKURA?!!

!

NARUTO--!!

ﾋﾞﾘﾘ!

HEH... HEH...

...

...

...

COLORED MANGA.COM

あ！ I'Z GET IT... HE...

HE WAS TOO KIND... TOO GENTLE...

HAKU... WHILE WE FOUGHT, HE BROKE HIS HEART... OVER YOU... AND YOUR FRIENDS. THAT'S THE TRUTH.

ハズカ〜シ！

SASUKE MADE IT AFTER ALL. FANTASTIC!

I'VE BEEN WORRYING SINCE THE FIGHT BEGAN... BUT...

!!

!

AREN'T YOU SWEET-HEARTS FORGETTING SOMETHING?!

THOP

HEY!

COLORED MANGA.COM

OH YEAH!

...IS TO OVERRUN THE CITY AND LOOT EVERY BUSINESS AND HOME!!

THE ONLY WAY WE CAN EVEN BREAK EVEN NOW...

AND NOW YOU'RE GONNA DIE!!!

YOU NINJA KILLED OUR MEAL TICKET!

カチャ

カチャ

MASTER KAKASHI— ISN'T THERE SOME TECHNIQUE WE CAN USE TO TAKE THEM ALL DOWN AT ONCE?

UHHH... THIS ISN'T GOOD.

I'M AFRAID... WITH THE LIGHTNING BLADE, THE ILLUSIONS AND CONJURATIONS... FOR THE MOMENT, I'VE EXHAUSTED MY CHAKRA.

LET'S GO!

!?

HEYY~!

ドカ

ドカ

ドカ

!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

YOU'LL DIE WHERE YOU STAND!

THIS ISLAND IS OUR HOME. ONE STEP FURTHER...

STOP WHERE YOU ARE.

ALL OF YOU...

INARI...

...

IT'S BEING A HERO, YOU KNOW? ALL THAT NICK OF TIME STUFF!

HEH HEH.

INARI!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ボワワン

ART OF THE SHADOW DOPPLE-GANGER!!

ナルト

GOOD ONE, KID. MIND IF I JOIN IN?

BUT A BLUFF SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR THESE BOZOS!

I CAN'T MANAGE ANYTHING SOLID WITH MY CHAKRA SO LOW.

YIPE!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ART OF THE SHADOW DOPPLE-GANGER!!

KAKASHI STYLE

NOW... SHALL WE?!

AIEE--!!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

RUN AWAY!!!

NEVER MIND!!

うおおおお

YAY..!!

ドボン

ドボン

あ あ あ あ

ボ ボ ボ ン

...LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALL OVER..

YEAH.

..EH, KAKASHI?

COLORED MANGA.COM

...SEE... HIS FACE.

...I WANT TO...

WHAT IS IT?

KAKASHI... DO ME A FAVOR?

SURE.

YANK

...

...

IT'S SNOWING.

HUH?

COLORED MANGA.COM

MY DEAR HAKU...
ハクー…

ARE YOU CRYING?
な…
泣いている

IN THE MIDDLE OF SUMMER...?

YOU WERE AT MY SIDE RIGHT FROM THE START...

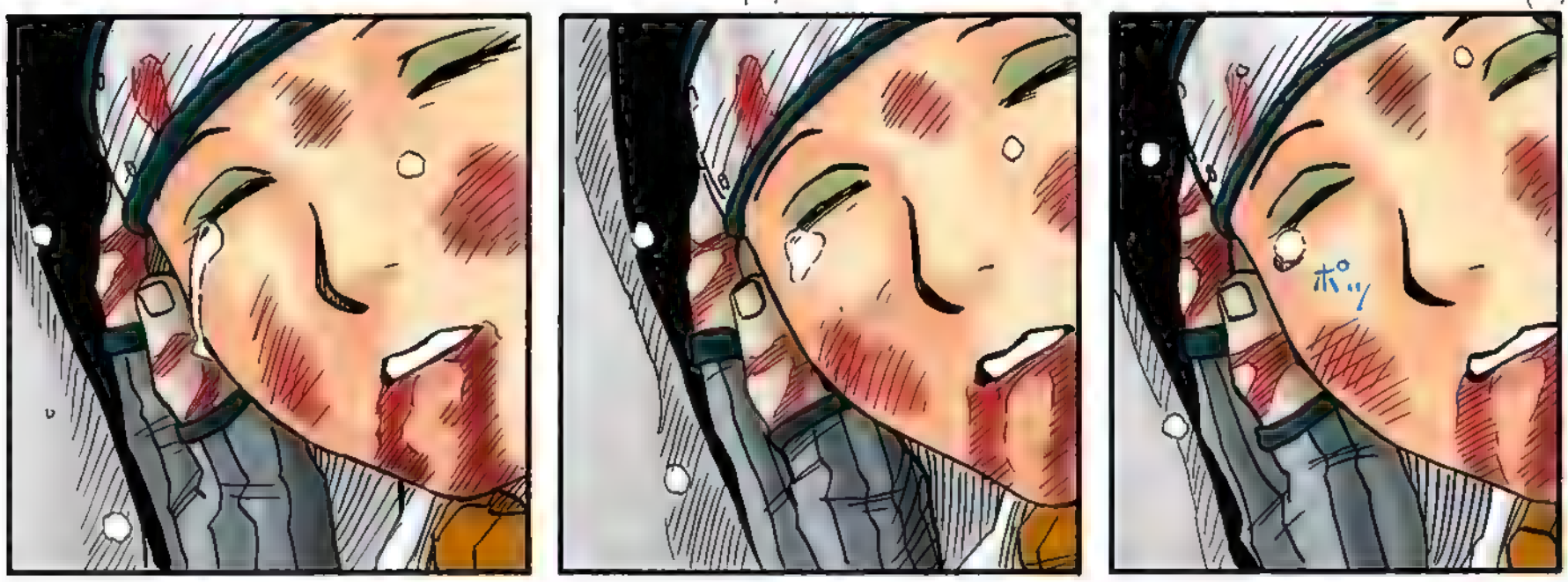
AND I'M AT YOURS, NOW, AT THE END...
いつ…
最後も

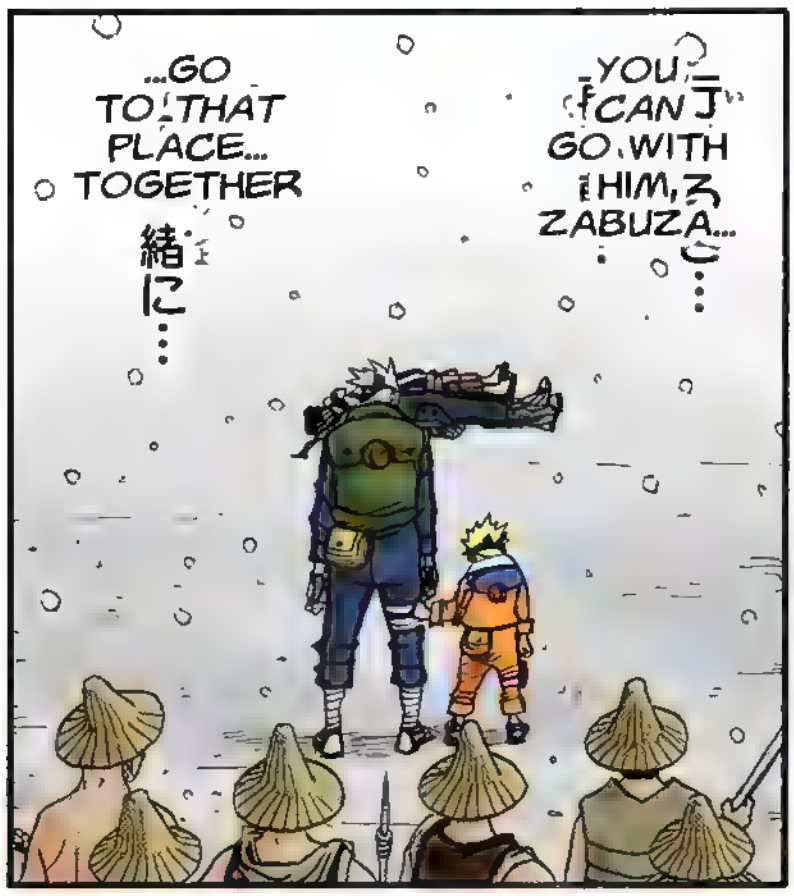
...THANK YOU ... KAKASHI.

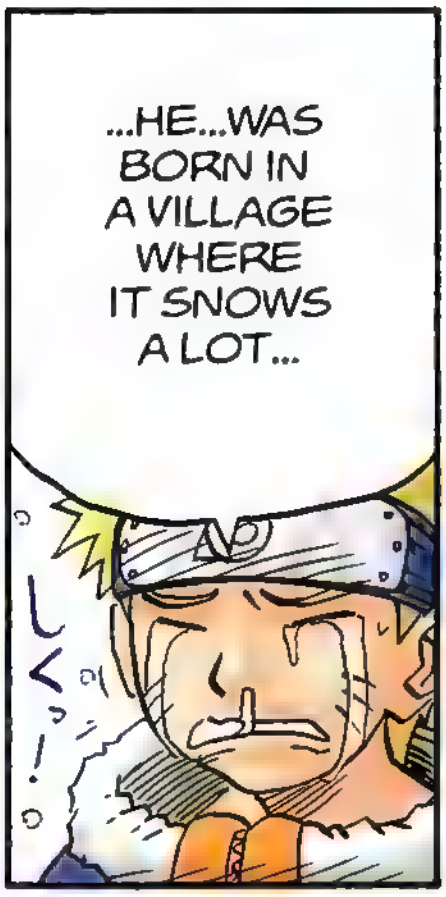
...IF I COULD... ...IF I WERE ABLE... I WOULD WANT TO GO... TO THE SAME PLACE... ON THE OTHER SIDE ...

...AS YOU.

COLORED MANGA.COM







COLORED MANGA.COM

パチィ

OWW!

スウ…

そ TWO WEEKS LATER 2週間(しゅうかん)

YOU EAT AN OFFERING, YOU'LL BE PUNISHED BY THE GODS!

キッ

HEH HEH

WHAT SNEAKY, GREEDY TRICK ARE YOU UP TO NOW?

...I CAN'T HELP WONDERING. WERE THOSE TWO RIGHT ABOUT WHAT A NINJA SHOULD BE?

HMM--?

MASTER KAKASHI...

...

BUT STILL...

I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF IT!

IS THAT REALLY WHAT BECOMING A FULL-FLEDGED NINJA'S GONNA BE ABOUT?

THAT'S AS TRUE FOR US IN KONOHAGAKURE AS IT FOR NINJA ANYWHERE ELSE.

IT IS IMPORTANT MERELY THAT WE EXIST AS A TOOL FOR OUR HOMELAND TO USE IN WHATEVER WAY THEY NEED.

A *SHINOBI* SHOULDN'T BE CONCERNED WITH A REASON FOR HER OWN EXISTENCE...

.....

COLORED MANGA.COM

...LIKE IT DID ZABUZA...

AND THAT'S WHY ALL WE NINJA LIVE OUR LIVES WITH THAT IDEAL ALWAYS BUBBLING BENEATH THE SURFACE OF OUR MINDS, DISTURBING US.

WELLL... NO.

DO YOU REALLY FEEL THAT WAY, MASTER KAKASHI?

...

AND THE BOY...

I AM GOING TO CREATE MY OWN *NINDO*— MY OWN NINJA PATH. MY OWN DESTINY!

THAT'S IT. I'VE MADE UP MY MIND!

!

COLORED NARUTOMANGA.COM

THANKS TO YOU, OUR BRIDGE HAS FINALLY BEEN COMPLETED, BUT...

IT'S GOING TO BE AWFULLY DULL AROUND HERE, ONCE YOU'RE GONE.

YOU BETTER...

...AW...

WE'VE ENJOYED YOUR HOSPITALITY.

NO PROBLEMO, TAZUNA, MY MAN!! WE'LL COME BACK TO PLAY WITH YOU AGAIN SOMETIME!

ME? NO WAY.

SEE YOU.

B-BUT NARUTO... HEY, "BIG BROTHER" ...Y-YOU CAN CRY! GO AHEAD!

I'M NOT GONNA CRY!!

...

SO— UM... ANYWAY...

IT'S OKAY TO CRY, IF YOU REALLY WANT!

INARI... DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN.

OH!

COLORED MANGA.COM

BONEHEADS!

ぶわあああ

どわあ

AND THERE'S ONLY NAME THAT WILL TRULY FIT.

AND SPEAKING OF BRIDGES, WE STILL HAVE TO OFFICIALLY DEDICATE THIS ONE.

WHAT ARE GOING TO CALL IT?

NARUTO BUILT THE BRIDGE THAT EVENTUALLY CARRIED US ALL TO HOPE AND COURAGE!

THAT BOY TOUCHED LITTLE INARI'S HEART... AND INARI TOUCHED THE HEARTS OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN OUR CITY..

HOW ABOUT... THE GREAT NARUTO BRIDGE?!

COLORED MANGA.COM

HEY! I'LL GO OUT WITH YOU!

N- NO...?...

NARUTO! NO! KNOCK IT OFF!

UH, NO. THANKS.

OH... UH... OKAY. BY THE WAY, SASUKE... WHEN WE DO GET HOME... WOULD YOU LIKE TO... GO OUT WITH ME?

AND THEN... AND THEN, YOU KNOW, I HAVE TO TELL LITTLE KONOHAMARU MY EPIC TALE OF MARTIAL ARTS BRAVERY--!!

ALL RIGHT--! LET'S GET HOME. MASTER IRUKA'S GONNA TAKE ME OUT FOR RAMEN NOODLES TO CELEBRATE US ACCOMPLISHING OUR MISSION!

HEE HEE... IT'S A NICE NAME, DAD.

HEH... QUITE SURE. YOU SEE, I HOPE THAT IN GIVING IT THAT NAME, WE'LL ENSURE THAT IT WILL STAND FOREVER...

ARE YOU SURE? CALLING IT THAT...?! いいのか？

THAT'S WHAT I HOPE... AND HOPEFULLY, THAT'S HOW IT'LL BE.

そ そ その>! 超有 OUR BRIDGE WILL BECOME SUPER-FAMOUS THE WORLD ALL OVER, AS A SYMBOL OF TRIUMPH AND ENDURANCE! るよう… 界中に

COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー34：侵入者!?
NUMBER 34: INTRUDERS?

牛乳

ふぁ～

野菜をたべよう

モグ モグ

ゴク ゴク

カチャ

A""

START YOUR ENGINES!! MACH 5!!

WOO-HOO! NO MATTER WHAT TODAY'S MISSION IS, I'LL HAVE THE ENERGY TO FACE IT NOW!

COLORED MANGA.COM

GOOD MORNING, SAKURAAAA!!

OH!

...

HMMF!

...

...

!

キラ

...

DIE, FREAKS!

?

NOT AGAIN! よりによって EVER SINCE WE GOT HOME FROM THE LAND OF WAVES, THESE TWO HAVE BEEN ACTING JUST PLAIN WEIRD!

IT'S SOOOO EMBARASSING! 〜〜〜 何だか 詰まり……

パワー 早 ANY TIME NOW, 来 MASTER KAKASHI! HURRY 来 UUUUUUP!! ろー!!

...

COLORED MANGA.COM

才8潴

才6潴

YOUR NOSE IS GROWING, MASTER!!!

YOU ALWAYS LAY IT ON TOO THICK.

忍者失格だってばよー!!

GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.

THREE HOURS LATER...

I'M AFRAID I GOT LOST ON THE WAY HERE...

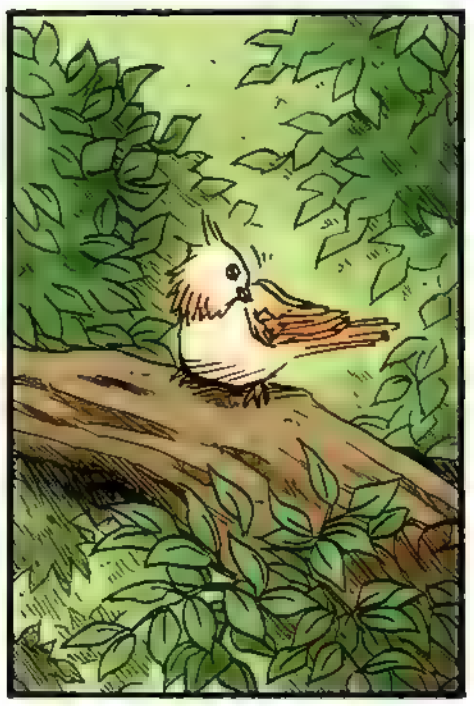
WE WANT ACTION! A CHALLENGE! SOMETHING WHERE I COULD USE MY SKILL -LIKE THIS... AND THIS... AND - AND -

OH, REALLY?

I SEE WHERE YOU'RE GOING WITH THIS...

ゴゴゴゴ

HEY, MASTER KAKASHI! ANY HOT NEW MISSIONS FOR THE 7TH CELL? WE'VE HAD NOTHING BUT GIMMES! BORRRRING!



SAVING YOU IS SUCH A NUISANCE, SASUKE!

THAT'S WHAT I'LL TELL 'IM!!

ポロポロ

GASP!

PUFF

PUFF

IT'S OVER, AS OF NOW!

EVERY TIME WE GO ON A MISSION, THEY END UP SHOWING ME UP AND SAVING ME. BUT NOT THIS TIME!

GRR... THOSE TWO...

WOULD YOU CHILL?!

YESSIR!

HEY, NARUTO! WAKE UP! WE'RE HEADING OUT ON OUR MISSION!

COLORED MANGA.COM

YOU'RE A REAL NUISANCE.

YOU'D HAVE BEEN FINE IF YOU HADN'T OVERDONE IT.

AND AT THE MISSION'S END...

SIGH...

IF YOU START ANYTHING MORE, I'LL BURY YOU!

...

HAH!

THAT DOES IT!! SASUKE-

カイーン

!

ヒリ

YOU TELL HIM! YOU'RE ALWAYS MESSING UP OUR TEAMWORK, SASUKE!!

HE WAS TALKING TO YOU, PINHEAD.

IF YOU'RE SO SICK OF BEING IN MY DEBT...

LATELY... YOUR TEAMWORK HAS BEEN ALMOST NON-EXISTENT.

HMM...

COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

GET BETTER THAN ME?

WHY DON'T YOU...

I HATE THIS... THERE ARE GUYS OUT THERE WHO COULD CHALLENGE ME, BUT I'M STUCK ON NOTHING ASSIGNMENTS WITH THIS TWERP.

かりのにり

I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY MANAGED IT, BUT THEY'RE ON EVEN WORSE TERMS NOW THAN THEY WERE BEFORE.

!

ポカ

ピィーヒョロロー

COLORED MANGA.COM

!

OH!

THEN I'M GOING HOME.

I'VE GOT TO GO HAND IN MY REPORT ON TODAY'S MISSION.

OKAY, THAT'S IT. WE'LL CALL IT A DAY RIGHT NOW.

YOU'RE AS BAD AS NARUTO.

IF WE, YOU KNOW... YOU AND I... JUST THE TWO OF US... COULD WORK ON OUR, UM... OUR ♡ TEAMWORK?

あ!!

I... I WAS WONDERING... IF... ♡

...

HEY! SASUKE, WAIT UP!

WORSE THAN NARUTO!

NO WAY!!!

EVEN HIS SKILLS ARE BETTER THAN YOURS!

WHY WASTE YOUR TIME FLIRTING WHEN YOU SHOULD BE PRACTICING?

LIKE NARUTO!

スリー

COLORED MANGA.COM

'CAUSE I'M ALWAYS THE WEAKEST... THE ONE WITH ALMOST NO SPECIAL SKILLS!

HE'S RIGHT... IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT OUR MISSION IS. THEY'RE ALL THE SAME TO ME...

ｽﾀｽﾀ

HUH?

WHERE'D MASTER KAKASHI GO? IS HE GIVING US SOME ALONE TIME?

ｼｭｯ

HEY, HOT STUFF! FORGET SASUKE. YOU AND I CAN TRAIN TOGETHER!

A ROCK? WHY IS A ROCK SNEAKING UP ON ME?!

HUH?!

ﾋﾀ

WHATEVER! WHAT MATTERS IS, I'M DONE LOSING! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING AHEAD OF ME, AND THAT'S... TRAINING!

ｺﾞｿｺﾞｿ

ｸﾙ

ｺﾞｿ

COLORED MANGA.COM

LITTLE HINT... NO ROCK HAS PERFECT ANGLES, PERFECT CORNERS... AND EYE HOLES. KIND OF A BIG CLUE.

イテ!

ゴッ

PSYCH!! FAKED YOU OUT, ROCK!!!

LEAVE IT TO THE MAN I HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED AS BEING ALMOST MY EQUAL! YOUR SKILLS RIVAL MY OWN!!

うんしょ うんしょ

.....

HEH HEH HEH YOU'RE OUR IDOL, RIGHT? WE'RE COPYING THE STYLE YOU USED TO WEAR.

UHHH... WHAT'S UP WITH THE GOGGLES?

OH, IT'S YOU GUYS.

COLORED MANGA.COM

WE'LL SHOW YOU, BOSS! CAN YOU COME NOW?

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?

HE'S LOOKING DOWN ON US

SUDDENLY TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL, BIG GUY?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "OKAY?"

!

OH- KAAAAAY....

BUT... BUT YOU PROMISED TO PLAY NINJA WITH US!! RIGHT?

IF I PLAY WITH THEM, EVEN A LITTLE, THEY'LL WASTE MY WHOLE DAY!

HEH... OH, YEAH... WAS THAT TODAY?

I HAVE TO TRAIN!

NOPE!

...

ドヨ〜ン

SO... JUST WHAT IS A NINJA DOING "PLAYING NINJA", HMM?

COLORED MANGA.COM

BUT WHO AM I TO TALK? I'M WORSE THAN HE IS!

UH, YES? CAN WE HELP YOU?

!

HEY, BIG GUY, WHO'S THE BABE?

THE WAY SHE'S LOOKING AT ME... STOP! I'M BLUSHING!!

THAT CHICK'S EYING HIM LIKE SHE'D LIKE TO KILL HIM AND DEVOUR HIS CORPSE!

ポーン

!!

ピッ

...YOU KNOWWWW! RIGHT?

HUNH?

THE HOTTIE... I CAN TELL... YOU AND SHE ARE.....

HEY, BIG GUY, SEEING AS HOW YOU'RE SO SMART AND SUAVE AND ALL...

ポン

COLORED MANGA.COM

WRONG!!

HEH HEH HEH

FOR LITTLE GUYS, YOU CATCH ON QUICK.

ドカッ

ガッ

ガッ

ドッ

BIG GUY!!

ゴゴゴ

いのなる火サクラ

ブチ

YOU'RE OUR LEADER! YOU CAN'T DIE!

OMMMM...

YOU TOTAL WITCH!

(PUFF)

(HURT)

(PUFF)

WH-WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR?!

COLORED MANGA.COM

THANKS FOR YOUR LATEST REPORT, MASTER KAKASHI.

HE'S... GETTING THERE.

DOES HE GET ALONG WELL WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS CELL?

HOW'S OUR LITTLE HELLION?

...

NARUTO HASN'T HAD TIME TO GET TOGETHER WITH ME ONCE. I CAN'T HELP WORRYING ABOUT HIM.

YOUR TEAM'S SEEN A LOT OF ACTION LATELY.

REALLY?

...!

BUT IT KEEPS NARUTO ON HIS TOES. HE'S DEVELOPING FAST. HE'S ALWAYS HOPING TO CATCH UP TO HIS HERO... **YOU.**

YOU KNOW HOW IT IS, MASTER IRUKA. UCHIHA SASUKE IS IN OUR CELL, TOO. HE AND NARUTO ARE LIKE A COUPLE OF DOGS, ALWAYS CIRCLING EACH OTHER, SNAPPING AND SNARLING.

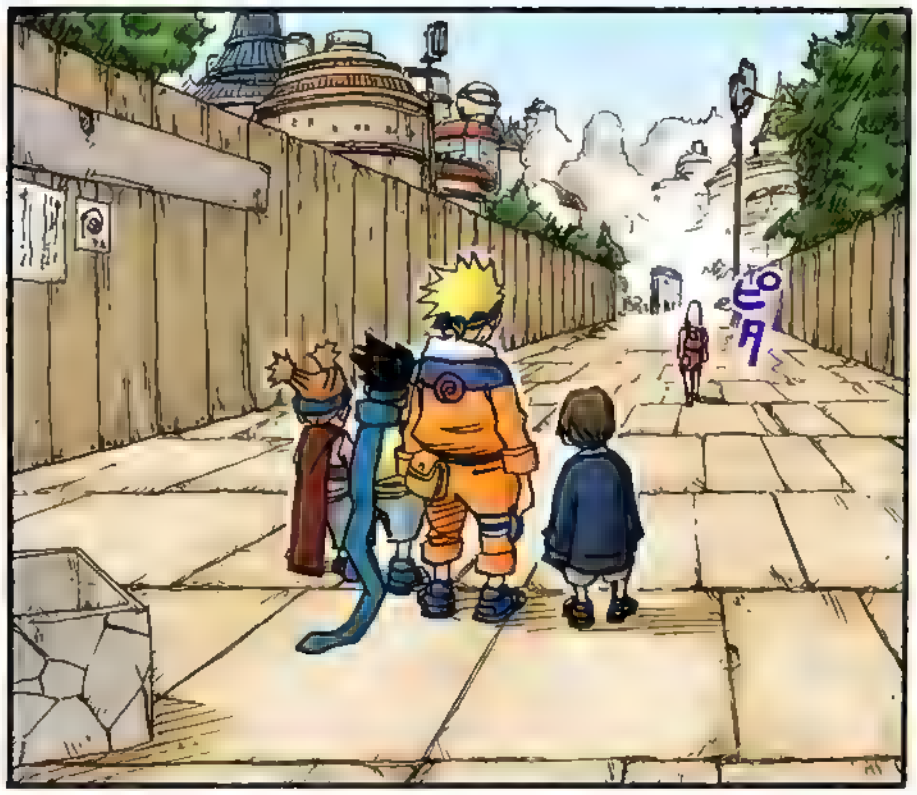
COLORED MANGA.COM

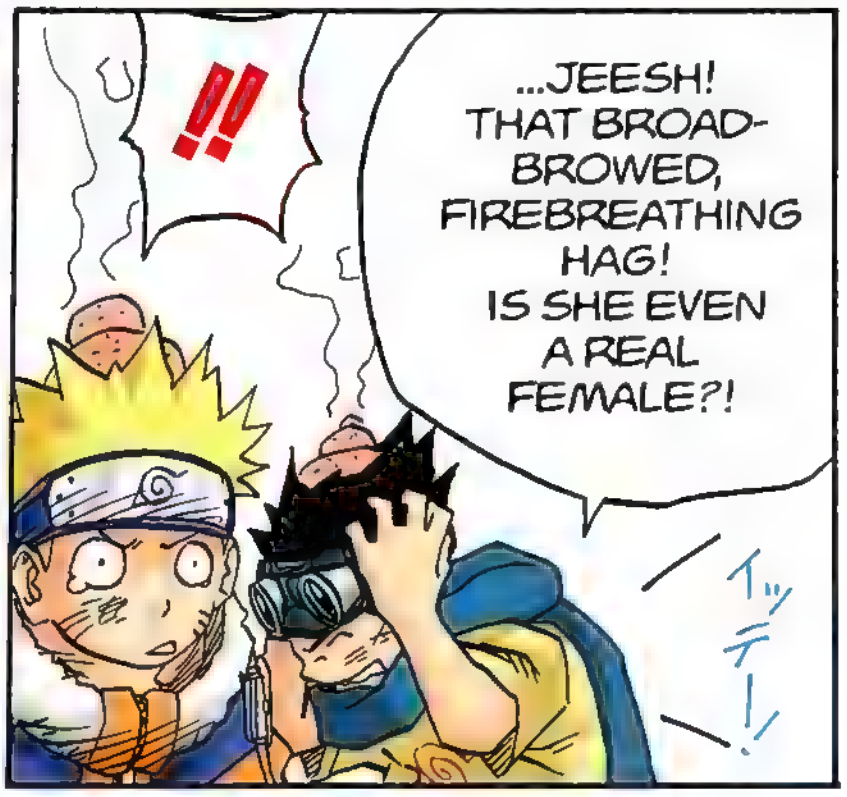
KONOHA-MARU! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

ズモモモ

HMF

スタスタ





ドカッ!!

YIPE!

ドドドドドド

ARRRRRGH!!

NARUTO
NARUTO.COM

THAT'S GOTTA SMART!

!!

NARUTOFORUM.COM

ピーヒョロ…

NOW WHAT?

HUFF

HUFF

!

HUFF

ボリボリ

NOW'S THE TIME!

COLORED MANGA.COM

UNNH...

THAT HURT, SNOTFACE!

KONOHA-MARU!!

IT WAS MY FAULT. I WAS FOOLING AROUND...

?

?

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

KNOCK IT OFF. YOU'RE GONNA GET IT AS IT IS!

THESE 7 GUYS MUST BE GENIN NINJA FROM KONOHA VILLAGE!

PUT HIM DOWN, YOU BIG APE!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

YOU SONOFA-

OWW!

I JUST WANT TO PLAY WITH HIM A LITTLE... WHILE WE'RE WAITING FOR THE NUISANCE TO GET HERE!

GAAH!!

WHY ARE THEY HERE?!...

TH- THEY'RE FOREIGNERS!

WHAT A WIMP!

IS THAT THE BEST KONOHA'S *GENIN* CAN DO?!

?

WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT?!

COLORED MANGA.COM

SEEING WHOM I INVITED HERE, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GUESS...

ISN'T THIS RATHER SUDDEN?

ONE WEEK FROM TODAY.

BECAUSE I BELIEVE I HAVE ALREADY SEEN SOME OF THEM IN OUR VILLAGE.

HAVE YOU INFORMED THE LORDS OF THE OTHER LANDS YET?

WHEN IS IT TO BE?

IS IT TIME ALREADY?

...WHAT WE ARE HERE TO DISCUSS.

WE SHALL BEGIN CONDUCTING EXAMINATIONS FOR JOURNEYMEN NINJA – THE *CHÛNIN.*

TO MAKE IT COMPLETELY OFFICIAL, I HEREBY ANNOUNCE...

SEVEN DAYS FROM NOW, ON JULY IST...

COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー35：IRUKA VS. KAKASHI?!

イルカVSカカシ（バーサス）!?

COLORED MANGA.COM

KONOHA-MARU!!

KONOHA-MARU!!

RELEASE HIM NOW AND I'LL GO EASY ON YOU, BONEHEAD!!

HEY! YOU IN THE BLACK PIG SUIT!!

...

YOU'RE STARTING TO ANNOY ME!

!

DO YOU WANT THAT GUY TO KICK URANUS?!

YOU'RE THE BONEHEAD!

GACK!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

!!

WHAT?!

I... WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS...

GASP

ガッ

BAD ENOUGH THAT YOU'RE A SHORT LITTLE KID... YOU'RE DISRESPECTING YOUR ELDERS! YOU MAKE ME WANT TO KILL HIM!

FIRST OFF, I'M ALLERGIC TO "SHRIMP"!

!!

ｱｯ

SO I'LL FINISH WITH THIS TINY SHRIMP... AND MOVE ON TO THE JUMBO SHRIMP OVER THERE.

WHO IS HE? THIS IS SO NOT GOOD!

YOU-

ガッ

YOU... YOU...

ｼｭｯ!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

UGH!

AAGH!

ゴッ

ゴッ

TELL ME... WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING IN OUR VILLAGE?

HM...: PRETTY COOL!

い… い男

SO?

IT'S SASUKE !!

COLORED MANGA.COM

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FIRST FROM THOSE WHO HAVE OVERSEEN THE TRAINING OF OUR NEWEST JUNIOR NINJA.

NOW, THEN...

...DO ANY OF YOU HAVE, AMONG YOUR CHARGES, ANY *GENIN* YOU'D RECOMMEND FOR THIS YEAR'S JOURNEYMEN EXAMS?

TELL US...

MASTERS KAKASHI, KURENAI, AND ASUMA.

COLORED MANGA.COM

BEYOND THAT, EMPLOY YOUR OWN JUDGMENT AS TO WHETHER THEY ARE READY TO ASPIRE TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

THEY MUST HAVE COMPLETED A MINIMUM OF EIGHT MISSIONS.

...THAT BEFORE WE CAN EVEN CONSIDER THEM,

YOU MAY BEGIN, KAKASHI.

HE SHOULDN'T BE ASKING THIS YET.... IT'S TOO SOON FOR **ANY** OF THEM.

TO BE TRULY COMPETITIVE, CANDIDATES SHOULD PROBABLY HAVE COMPLETED AT LEAST DOUBLE THE RECOMMENDED NUMBER OF MISSIONS...

- THAT ALL THREE OF THEM ARE READY FOR THE *CHŪNIN* SELECTION EXAM.

CELL NUMBER 7, LED BY KAKASHI, CONSISTS OF UCHIHA SASUKE, UZUMAKI NARUTO, AND HARUNO SAKURA. I VOW UPON THE HONOR OF MY CLAN, THE HATAKE -

COLORED MANGA.COM

- THAT ALL THREE ARE READY FOR THE *CHÛNIN* SELECTION EXAM.

CELL NUMBER 8, LED BY KURENAI, CONSISTS OF HYUGA HINATA, INUZUKA KIBA, AND ABURAME SHINO. I VOW UPON MY OWN CLAN, THE YUHI, THAT I AM AS CERTAIN AS IS MY ESTEEMED COLLEAGUE -

WHAT?!

HOW UNUSUAL FOR ALL THREE OF YOU TO HAVE UNHESITATINGLY ASSENTED...

- THAT ALL THREE ARE READY FOR THE *CHÛNIN* SELECTION EXAM.

CELL NUMBER 10, LED BY ASUMA, CONSISTS OF YAMANAKA INO, NARA SHIKAMARU, AND AKIMICHI CHOJI. I VOW UPON MY CLAN, THE SARUTOBI, THAT I AM EQUALLY AS CERTAIN -

LORD HOKAGE!

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO SPEAK!!

YES, IRUKA?

J-JUST A MOMENT!

COLORED MANGA.COM

CERTAINLY, THEY ARE ALL GIFTED AND SHOW BOTH COMMITMENT AND TALENT... BUT IT'S TOO SOON FOR KIDS THAT YOUNG TO BE STEPPING UP TO THE JOURNEYMAN LEVEL.

FORGIVE ME IF I OVERSTEP, BUT MOST OF THE NINE STUDENTS JUST NAMED...

... WERE MY STUDENTS WHILE THEY WERE AT THE ACADEMY.

NARUTO'S NOT LIKE YOU!

I WAS SIX YEARS YOUNGER THAN NARUTO WHEN I ATTAINED THE RANK OF *CHÛNIN*, IRUKA.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEIR SUPERVISORS CAN'T SEE THAT.

ONLY WITH TIME WILL THEY HAVE THE KIND OF EXPERIENCE AND MATURITY THOSE EXAMS REQUIRE.

LET'S ADMIT IT. BREAKING THEM WOULD BE FUN.

THEY GRIPE ABOUT EVERY DETAIL OF EVERY MISSION. JUST FOR ONCE, I THINK IT WOULD DO THEM GOOD TO FIND OUT WHAT REAL PAIN IS...

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?

YOU ALL KNOW WHAT THEY CALL THE *CHÛNIN* SELECTION EXAMS, DON'T YOU?

DO YOU WANT TO DESTROY THOSE CHILDREN?!

COLORED MANGA.COM

BUT...

I UNDERSTAND YOU... AND I'M SORRY IF MY RECOMMENDATION UPSETS YOU. BUT I STAND BY IT.

...IT WAS A JOKE, MASTER IRUKA.

KAKASHI... CAN WE FINISH WITH THIS?

IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, ANYWAY...

...THEY'RE NOT YOUR STUDENTS ANYMORE.

THEY ARE SOLDIERS UNDER MY COMMAND.

...

火

WHAT A PEST.

つばき

せー

...

COLORED MANGA.COM

GET LOST.

OH, LOOK. ANOTHER LITTLE BRAT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE LOOKED UP TO YOU!

NARUTO.... YOU SUCK!

OOO... HOW COOL!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

HE DID IT AGAIN - STICKING HIS NOSE IN AND MAKING ME LOOK BAD!!

RIIIGHT.

DON'T BE STUPID. I COULD HAVE HANDLED THAT LOSER IF SASUKE HADN'T BUTTED IN!

SHF

THINK YOU'RE PRETTY SMART, DON'T YOU?

COME DOWN, LITTLE SQUIRREL!

KANKURO! DON'T!

!!

TOK

TELL ME YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO USE THE 'CROW!

COLORED MANGA.COM

COLORED BY NARUTOMANGA.COM

YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO OUR ENTIRE VILLAGE.

G-GAA-RA...

HE... HE SNUCK UP BESIDE ME... I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A CLUE!

抹HIS STEALTH SKILLS RIVAL KAKASHI'S. の

BUT GAARA... THEY STARTED IT. THE LITTLE ONE SLAMMED ME!

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHY WE CAME HERE?

IT ANNOYS ME THAT YOU'D LOSE CONTROL IN A QUARREL WITH CHILDREN!

COLORED MANGA.COM

OR I'LL KILL YOU.

SHUT UP...

GAARA'S TATTOO SAYS "LOVE".

YOU'RE RIGHT. I WAS OUT OF LINE.

WE'RE SORRY... OKAY, GAARA?

REALLY. REALLY SORRY.

ヒ!!

THIS IS THE ONE WHO NAILED KANKURO WITH AS STONE. THAT TOOK SKILL.

!!

SORRY ABOUT MY FRIENDS.

HE GLARES LIKE A BASILISK.

SO HE'S IN CHARGE, EH?

COLORED MANGA.COM

I SWEAR IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

... BUT WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO PLAY AROUND.

I KNOW WE'RE A LITTLE EARLY...

!

...COME FROM THE VILLAGE HIDDEN IN THE SAND.

YES?

ACCORDING TO YOUR HEADBANDS, YOU THREE...

WAIT!

LET'S GO.

!

WE CAN'T JUST LET YOU GO YOUR MERRY WAY.

STATE YOUR BUSINESS!

...BUT ACCORDING TO OUR TREATY, YOUR NINJA ARE NOT PERMITTED TO CROSS THE BORDER WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION

YOUR COUNTRY IS ONE OF KONOHA'S ALLIES...

COLORED MANGA.COM

!

WEREN'T YOU INFORMED?

ハイ TA-DA! MY TRAVEL PAPERS! 行証!

...EVER HEARD THE OLD SAYING ABOUT IT BEING DARKEST AT THE BASE OF THE BRIGHTEST LIGHT-HOUSE?

WHAT'S THE *CHŪNIN* SELECTION EXAM?

...

WE'RE HERE TO TAKE THE *CHŪNIN* SELECTION EXAM

AS YOU GUESSED, WE'RE JUNIOR-LEVEL NINJA FROM THE HIDDEN SAND VILLAGE.

YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW? JUNIOR NINJA ARE SENT FROM THE HIDDEN SAND VILLAGE AND THE MINOR LANDS BETWEEN OUR HOME AND YOURS TO COMPETE AGAINST KONOHA'S OWN CANDIDATES.

MAINLY TO MAINTAIN THE SKILL OF ALL SHINOBI AT THE SAME HIGH LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE. ALSO TO FOSTER FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN NINJA. AND, OF COURSE, TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF POWER BETWEEN THE LANDS THEMSELVES.

WHY TEST US ALL TOGETHER?

COLORED MANGA.COM

ガッ

HEY! YOU THERE! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

LISTEN, YOU! WHEN YOU ASK SOMEONE A QUESTION, IT'S CONSIDERED GOOD MANNERS TO LISTEN TO THEIR ENTIRE ANSWER.

フッ

HEY, KONOHAMARU! MAYBE I SHOULD ENTER THIS CHŪNIN SELECTION EXAM THING TOO, HUH?

!

!

...

NO! I WAS TALKING TO THE SPOOK BESIDE YOU.

HUH?

W-WHO, ME?

!

AND YOU ARE...?

...

GAARA OF THE DESERT, AT YOUR SERVICE.

COLORED BY NARUTOFAN.COM

UCHIHA SASUKE.

HEH

NO.

LET'S GO.

...

HEY! HEY! DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW MY NAME?

COLORED MANGA.COM

NEXT TO SASUKE, BIG GUY... YEAH.

KONOHA-MARU, DO I LOOK LIKE SUCH A LOSER?

THINGS ARE GETTING INTERESTING.

しゅん

WHERE DO YOU GET OFF STICKING YOUR NOSE IN?

SASUKE!! I AIN'T GONNA TAKE THIS!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

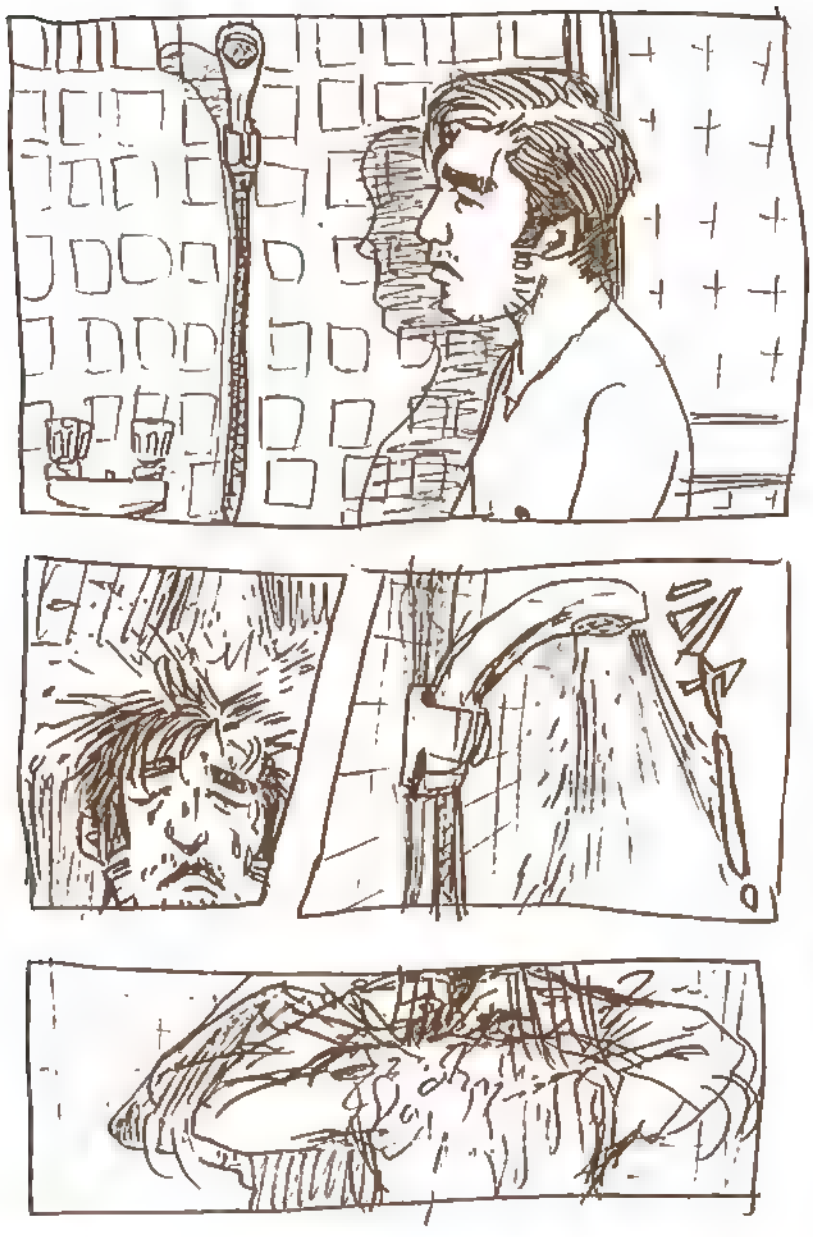
...EXCEPT THE KONOHA RAVEN-HAIR AND THE SPOOK FROM THE SAND. KEEP AN EYE ON THEM.

NONE OF THEM ARE OF ANY IMPORTANCE...

COLORED MANGA.COM

KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S

POINTLESS LITTLE STORY



THE EIGHT-FRAME *MANGA* ON THE LEFT BRINGS BACK FOND MEMORIES FOR ME OF KOISHI, THE FRIEND WHO DREW IT FOR ME BACK IN COLLEGE. I HAD BEEN DRAWING *MANGA* SINCE MY HIGH-SCHOOL DAYS, BUT I DIDN'T HAVE A SINGLE FRIEND WHO SHARED MY PASSION. IN COLLEGE, I HEARD OF A GROUP OF MANGA FANS AND ASPIRING ARTISTS WHO CALLED THEMSELVES THE *MANKEN*, OR MANGA LAB. BUT THEY WEREN'T SO MUCH DRAWING MANGA AS THEY WERE PATTING EACH OTHER ON THE BACK FOR DRAWING PIN-UPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS WITH NO ATTEMPT AT STORYTELLING WHATSOEVER. I AVOIDED THOSE PHONIES LIKE THE PLAGUE AND WENT MY OWN WAY, TRYING TO DRAW ACTUAL MANGA.

THEN, ONE DAY, I MET A MAN WHO CLAIMED HE HAD DRAWN AUTHENTIC *MANGA* BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL. I HAD DOUBTS ABOUT WHETHER HE WAS ON THE LEVEL, SO I CHALLENGED HIM. I WAS DETERMINED TO FIND OUT WHETHER HE WAS A REAL MANGA ARTIST OR ANOTHER PHONY. I DEMANDED THAT HE DRAW A TWO-PAGE STORY FOR ME ON THE SPOT. SO HE DREW THE MANGA ON THE LEFT AND GAVE IT TO ME. IT WAS MOMENT OF INTENSE JOY FOR ME TO HOLD SOMEONE ELSE'S MANGA IN MY HAND LIKE THAT, FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, AND I TREASURE HIS MANGA TO THIS VERY DAY.

COLORED MANGA.COM

HEY! HEY! HEY, DID YOU HEAR?

SAKURA'S DEPRESSION

ナンバー36：サクラの憂鬱(ゆううつ)!!

IT PROBABLY HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE RIVALRY AMONG THE *JÔNIN* ELITE.

NO WAY!

THE *CHÛNIN* EXAM'S COMING UP... WORD IS THEY'LL BE LETTING MEMBERS OF THE ROOKIE CLASS COMPETE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FIVE YEARS!

WELL, EITHER WAY—

THE KAKASHI? THAT'S INTERESTING...

POK

I DOUBT THAT. THEY SAY THREE OF THEM ARE IN THE CELL TRAINED BY KAKASHI.

COLORED MANGA.COM

IT ALL HAS A VERY SAD SOUND TO IT.

ナンバー 36：

サクラの憂鬱(ゆううつ)!!

COLORED
ANGA.COM

ハルノー

SHEESH!

SIGH

I MEAN, THINK HOW I FEEL. I OVERSLEPT, AND I DIDN'T EVEN GET TO BLOW-DRY MY HAIR!

SHE'S RIGHT! SAY IT, SAKURA!!

WE CAN TELL h

ハ!!

WHY IS IT, WHENEVER WE GET CALLED OUT, WE END UP WAITING LIKE DOPES FOR THE CHALLENGER TO SHOW?

OKAY, LOOK! ARE WE GOING TO JUST STAND AROUND AND LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS?

WHY DO THESE TWO ALWAYS WAKE UP FEELING DRAMATIC?

EWWW! GROSS!

HEH...

イラ イラ

... AND I DIDN'T EVEN PAUSE TO WASH MY FACE OR BRUSH MY TEETH!

YEAH. IT'S NOT RIGHT. I OVERSLEPT, TOO...

COLORED MANGA.COM

IN ANY CASE...

WOULD IT KILL YOU TO AT LEAST PRETEND TO BE SORRY?

YOU ARE SUCH A LIAR!!

TODAY, I WANDERED A BIT FROM THE PATH OF LIFE...
道に

!!

MORNING, GUYS!!

!

...

HUH?!

BUT I'VE RECOMMENDED ALL THREE OF YOU FOR THE *CHŪNIN* SELECTION EXAM.

THIS MAY SURPRISE YOU...

YOU HAVE TO FILL OUT APPLICATIONS.

GOOD ONE, MASTER. YOU ALMOST HAD US.

SAY WHAT?!

COLORED MANGA.COM

HEH HEH HEH HEH

...

GET OFF... YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME!

MASTER KAKASHI, I LOVE YOU!!

IF YOU DO, REPORT TO ROOM 301 AT THE SCHOOL BY 4:00 TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

YOU NEEDN'T TURN IN THOSE APPLICATION FORMS UNLESS YOU WANT TO.

IF ANY OF YOU DON'T WISH TO COMPETE, THE EXAM IS ENTIRELY VOLUNTARY.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

THAT'S ALL!

COLORED MANGA.COM

I'LL BET THERE'LL BE A LOT OF TOUGH COMPETITION.

TAK

DUM-DI-DI-DUH... THE JOURNEYMAN NINJA SELECTION EXAM!

TAK

I SWEAR, I AM NOT GONNA LET ANYONE BEAT ME!!

!

AND THAT OTHER ONE!!

キッ

LIKE HIM!!

ピッ

イエ～イ

REPLACED BY NARUTO... I GUESS THE BEST MAN WON...

HEE HEE HEE!

TIME FOR THIS SENILE OLD FOOL TO RETIRE!

ファアア

間違ってるよ

IF I COULD WIN SOMETHING THIS BIG...

IT'D BE SMOOTH SAILING TO BECOME THE NEXT LORD HOKAGE!

チィ！

2

COLORED MANGA.COM

I MIGHT GET TO FACE OFF AGAINST THAT SPOOK.

...

HAH!

...

A-DI-DI-DA

...

FORGET SASUKE... I CAN'T EVEN KEEP UP WITH NARUTO.

THIS EXAM WOULD BE TOO MUCH FOR ME.

...DON'T WANT TO.

COLORED MANGA.COM

酒酒屋

HEY, SAKURA!

THE NEXT DAY...

UP WITH HER?

WHAT'S...

CAN'T YOU READ?

IS THIS WHERE I SIGN MY NAME?

UH... HI.

...

#7 #7

忍者アカデミー

忍

COLORED MANGA.COM

WHY BOTHER?

IS SOMEONE AS TALENTLESS AS YOU REALLY PLANNING TO TAKE THE *CHÛNIN* SELECTION EXAM?

301

PLEASE... WE'RE BEGGING YOU... LET US IN.

YOU SAID IT!

BUNCH OF WET-BEHIND-THE-EARS SNOTNOSES!

SNERK

...THAT'S JUST CRUEL...!

!!

UHN-

301

ドカ

COLORED MANGA.COM

WE'RE JUST TRYING TO SPARE YOU...

YOU MISUNDER-STAND!

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

!!

ガヤ ガヤ

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO MADE IT, THEN IMMEDIATELY GAVE UP BEING SHINOBI... OTHERS WHO ENDED UP CRIPPLED... SOME REDUCED TO VEGETABLES... WE'VE SEEN IT ALL!

THE *CHÛNIN* EXAM IS INCREDIBLY DIFFICULT... AND WE SHOULD KNOW. WE'VE FAILED THREE TIMES SO FAR.

AND YOU LITTLE PUNKS HAVE THE NERVE TO APPLY?

SNORT

THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FAILED MISSIONS AND DEAD SHINOBI REST FIRMLY ON THEIR SHOULDERS.

BESIDES THAT, *CHÛNIN* ARE CELL COMMANDERS. THEY LEAD THEIR UNITS.

COLORED MANGA.COM

THAT SOUNDS GOOD IN THEORY...

WE'RE SAVING A STEP BY WEEDING OUT THE OBVIOUS LOSERS BEFOREHAND.

WHO KNOWS?

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?

I HAVE BUSINESS ON THE THIRD FLOOR.

TAK

...!

AND DROP THE FORCE-FIELD ILLUSION YOU'VE CREATED, WHILE YOU'RE AT IT.

... BUT YOU'D BETTER LET ME THROUGH.

SO YOU FIGURED THAT OUT, EH?

HEH...

COLORED MANGA.COM

YOU'RE THE MOST ANALYTICAL AND THE BEST IN OUR CELL...

...AT UNDERSTANDING THE ART OF ILLUSION.

IT WAS EASY. RIGHT, SAKURA?

YOU WERE PROBABLY THE FIRST TO NOTICE IT.

HUH...?

...

SASUKE...

...

...THANK YOU...

あ…と…

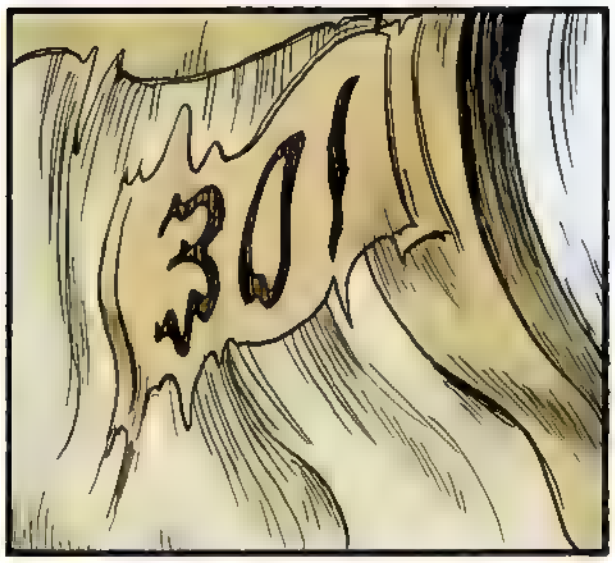
?

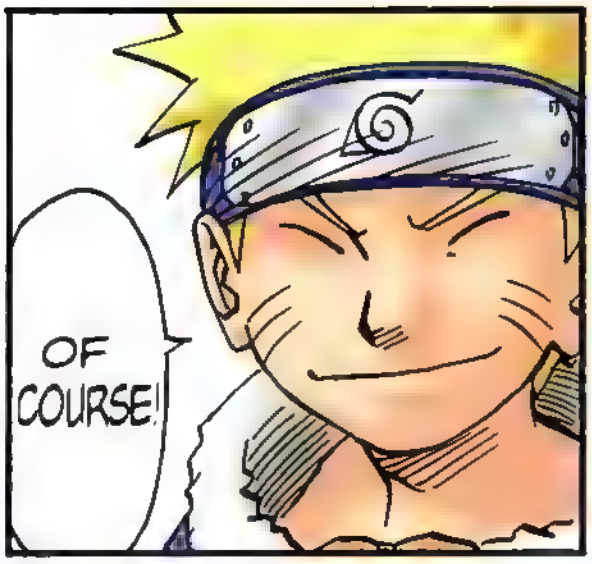
HEH.

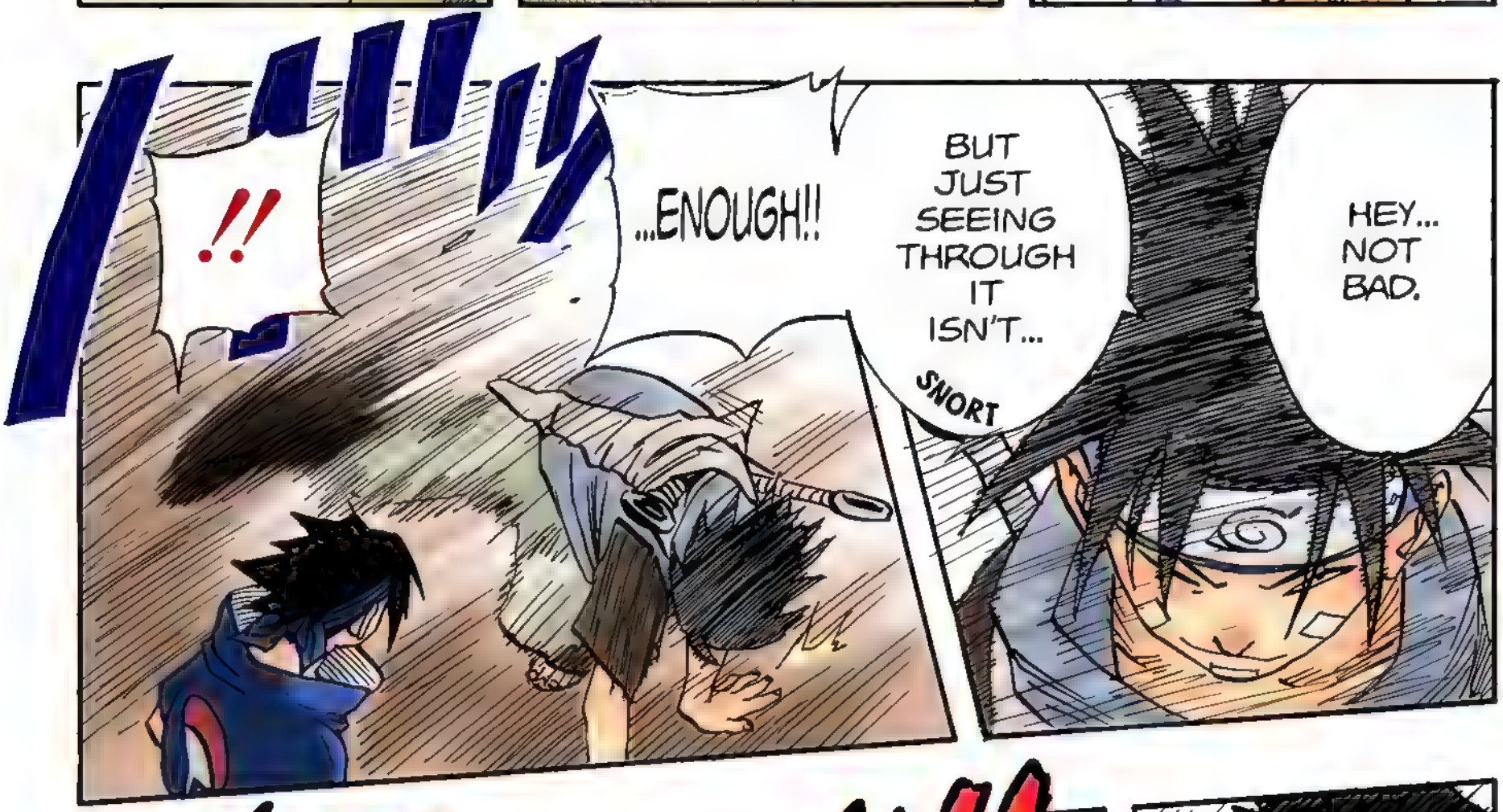
OF COURSE I NOTICED IT.

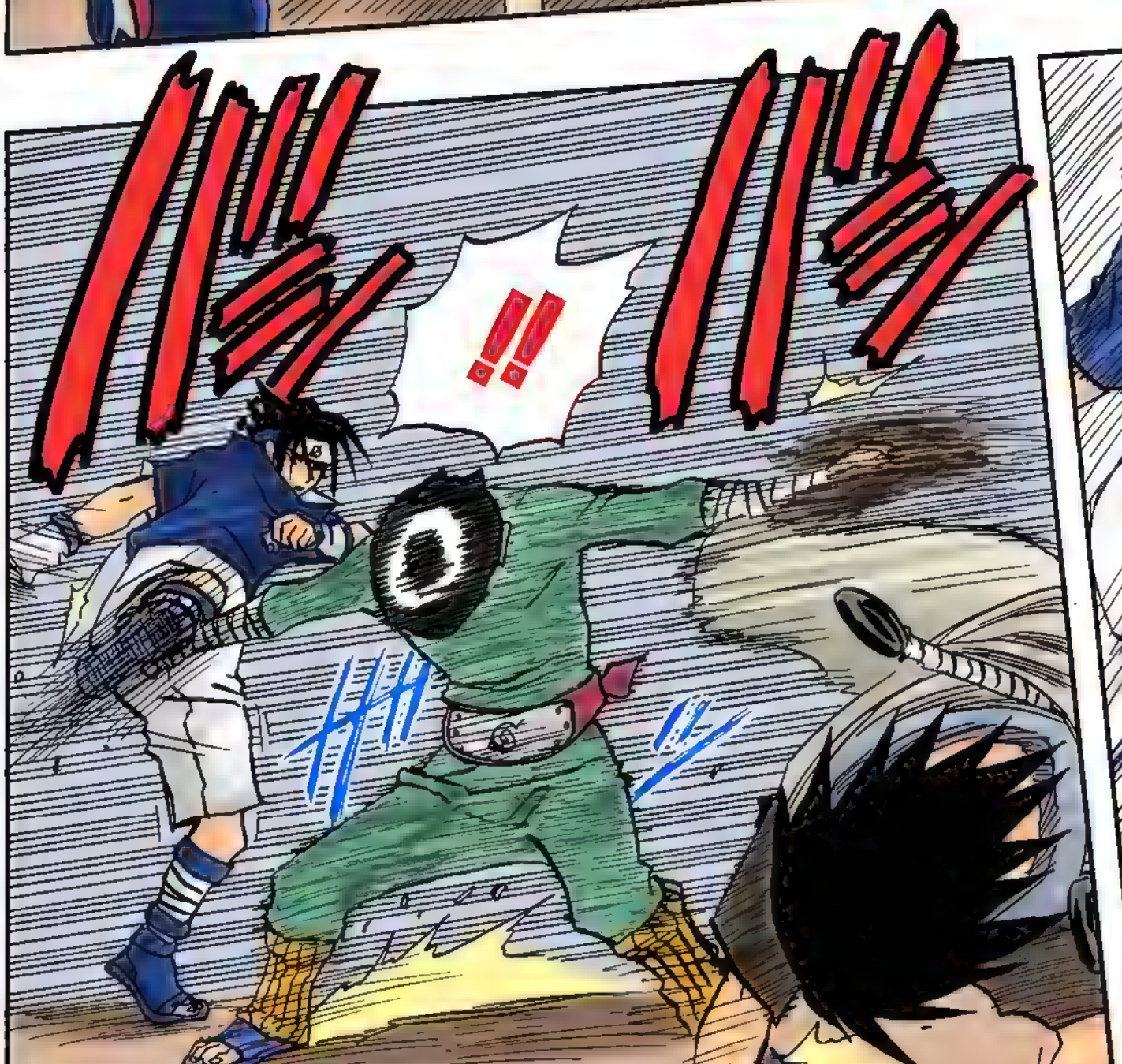
OBVIOUSLY, WE'RE STILL ON THE SECOND FLOOR.

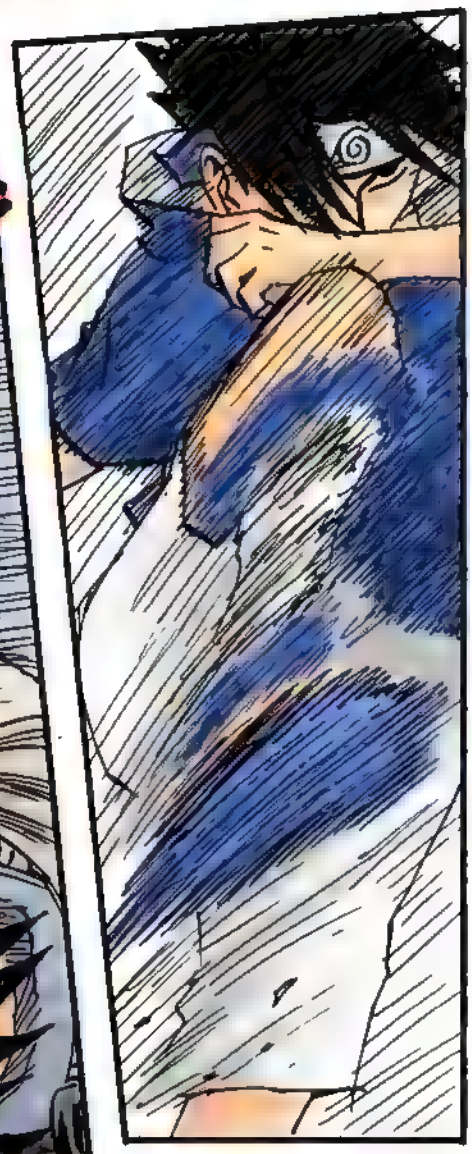
COLORED BY MANGA.COM



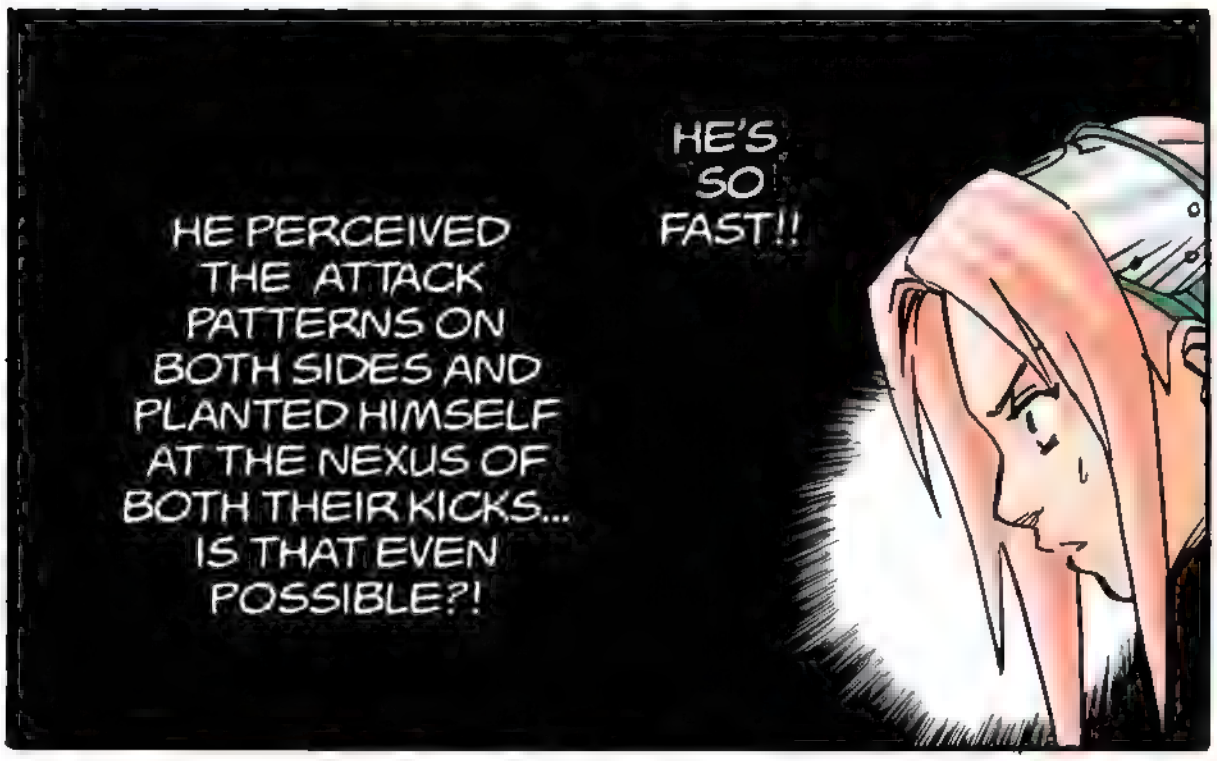


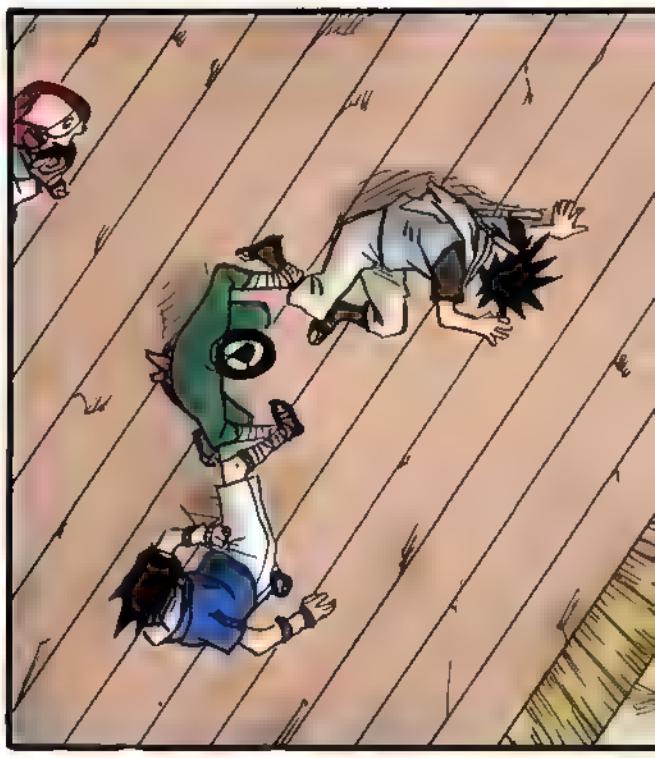


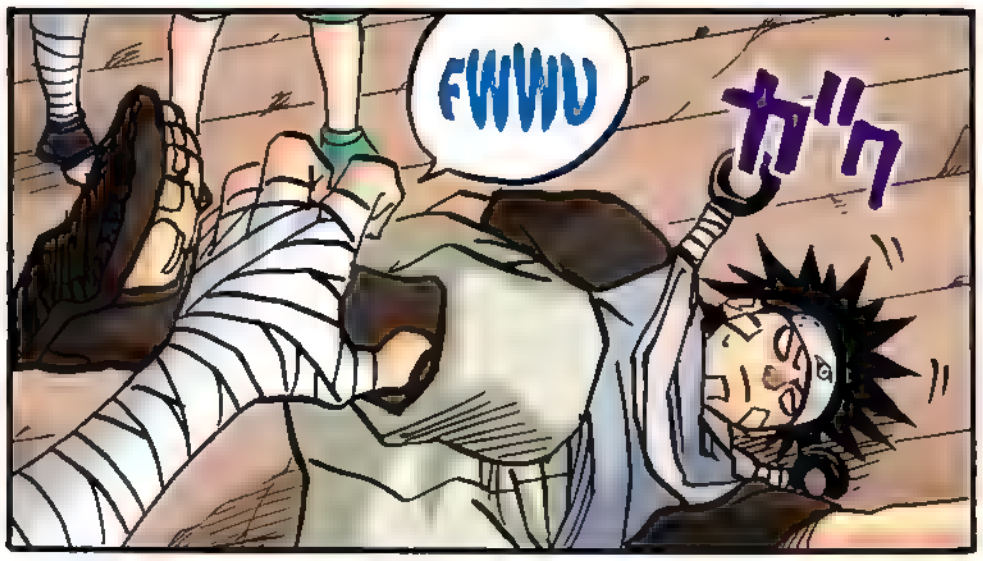


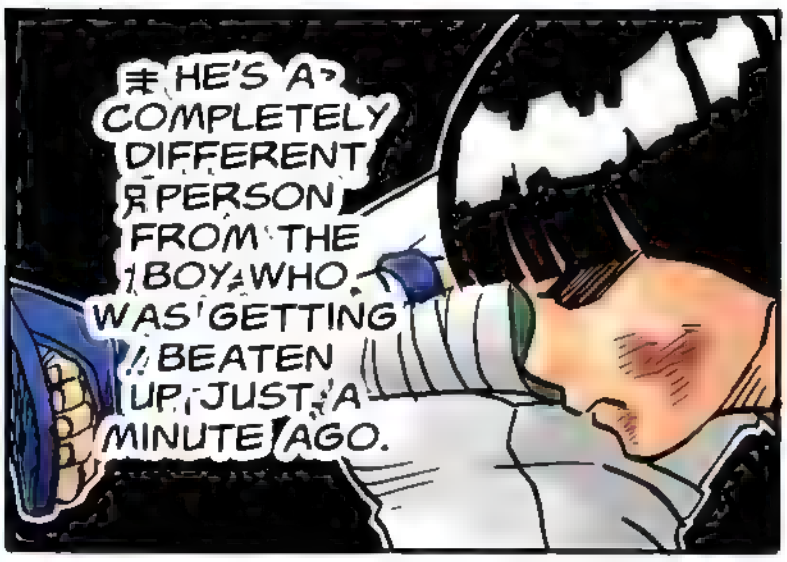


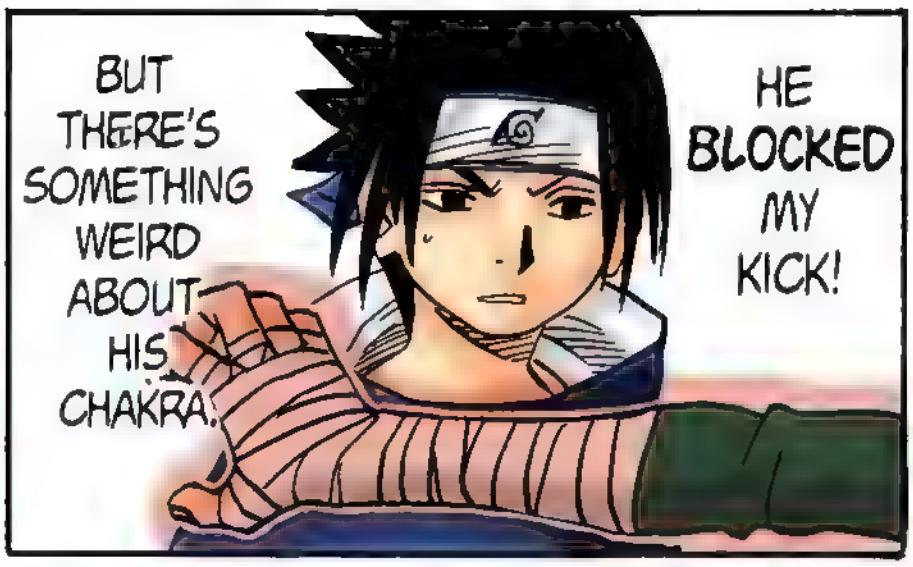
COLORED MANGA.COM


HE PERCEIVED THE ATTACK PATTERNS ON BOTH SIDES AND PLANTED HIMSELF AT THE NEXUS OF BOTH THEIR KICKS... IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?!
HE'S SO FAST!!









COLORED MANGA.COM

!

...B... BUT...

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO INSISTED WE SHOULD AVOID DRAWING ATTENTION TO OURSELVES.

THAT'S NOT WHAT WE AGREED!

WHAT TH...? HIS BRUISES HAVE ALREADY HEALED!

ガッ

HERE WE GO AGAIN.....

ポッ

!

UM-

テクテク

YOU'RE SAKURA, AREN'T YOU?

HI. MY NAME IS ROCK LEE.

COLORED
ANSA.COM

I'LL PROTECT YOU WITH MY LIFE!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO OUT WITH ME?

キラーン

ハハハ カガ 7

...WAY.

NO...

YOU ARE WAY OUT OF HAND!

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

HEY, YOU!

ギッ

COLORED MANGA.COM

IT'S COMMON COURTESY TO GIVE YOUR OWN NAME FIRST.

IT'S ALWAYS SASUKE. SASUKE, SASUKE, SASUKE!

ｶﾞｲﾝ

ｶﾞｲﾝ

I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU A THING.

YOU'RE A ROOKIE, AREN'T YOU? HOW OLD?

かっ CUTE... AND COOL! いい！

NOT A SINGLE SCRATCH!

やれやれ…ﾋﾝ揃(そろ)いだぜ…

THIS EXAM...

...IS TURNING INTO A FREAK SHOW.

COLORED MANGA.COM

ポン

YEP.

HEH... SO THOSE ARE KAKASHI AND GUY'S PRECIOUS BRATS, EH? WELL, AT LEAST THEY MANAGED TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS.

NOW! SASUKE, NARUTO, LET'S GO!!

IT LOOKS LIKE WE CAN AMUSE OURSELVES WITH THIS YEAR'S CROP.

SNORT

A LITTLE PERK FOR BEING THE PROCTORS

...

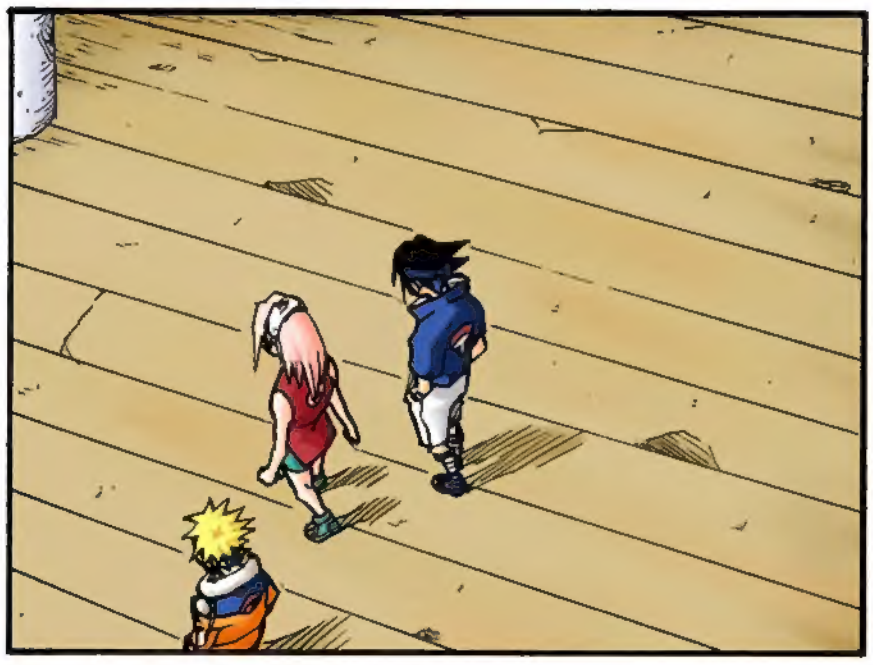
LET'S GO, LEE. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

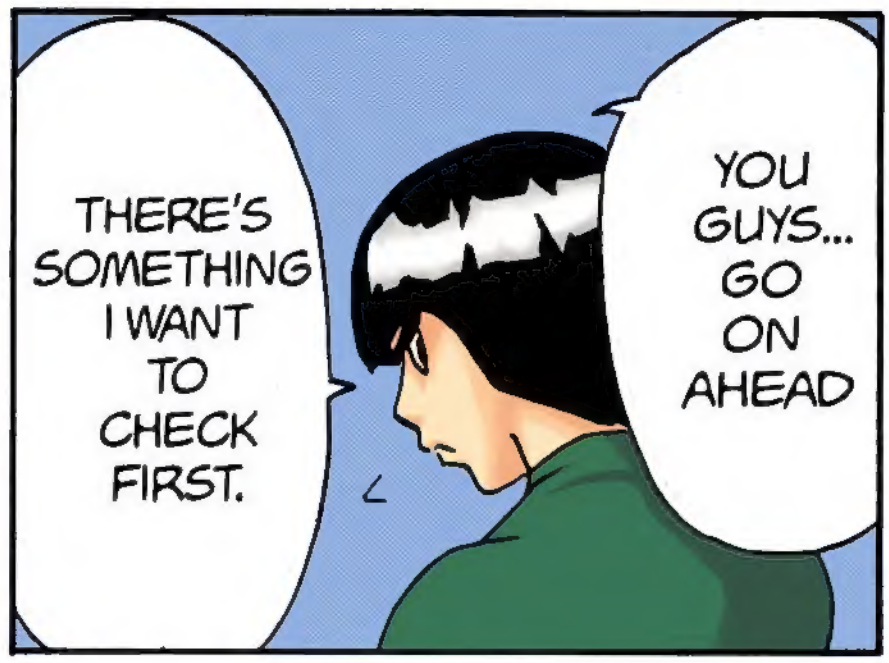
STOP PULLING.

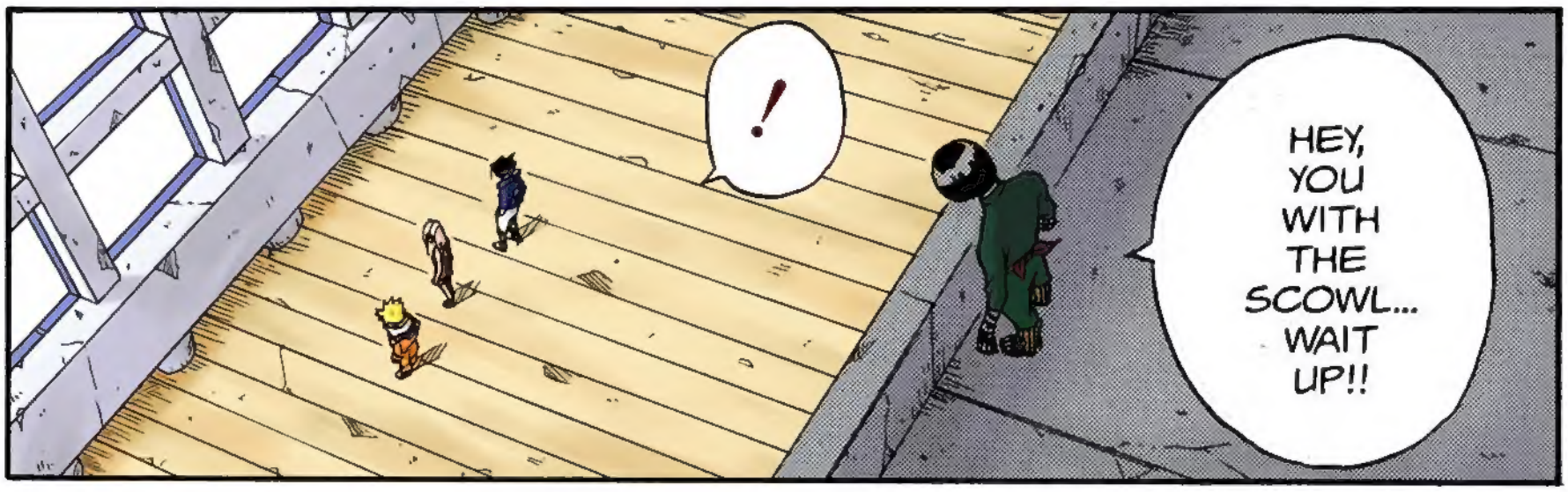
IΛΛ

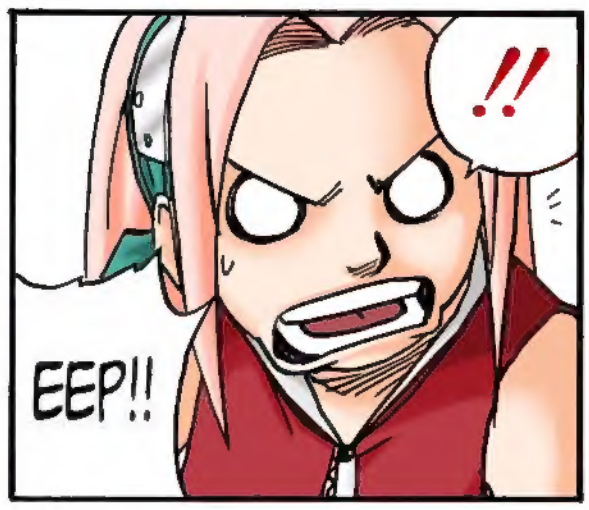
スーン

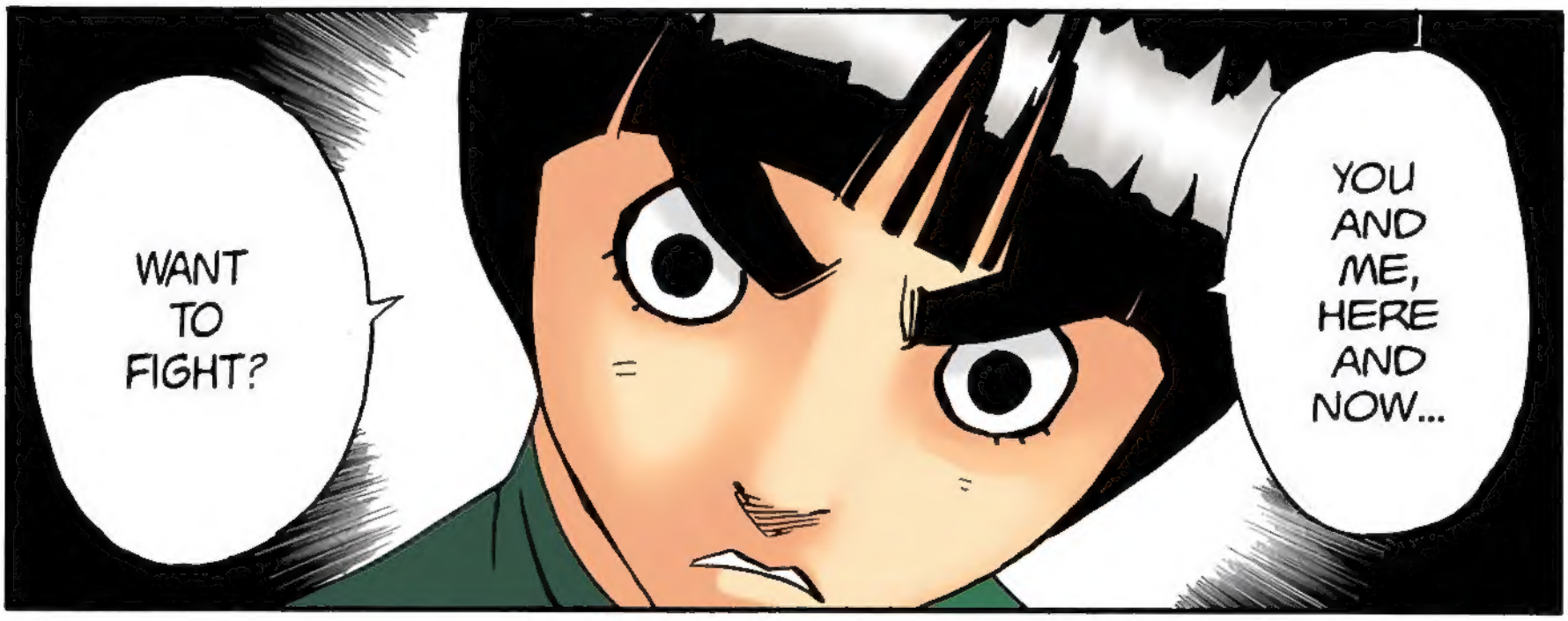
COLORED MANGA.COM











COLORED MANGA.COM